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THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE JULY 2006

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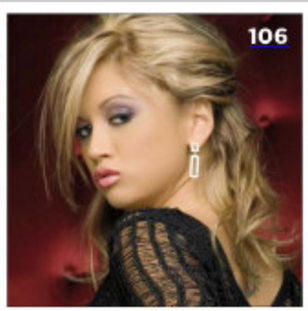

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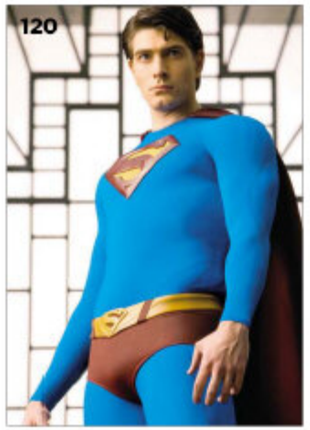

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Auld Lang Syne

Last New Year's Eve, my husband, Ricky, and I decided to avoid the crowds and celebrate at home. We invited my friend Jenna to join us, since she was recently divorced.

We started the night playing cards, which was quite a change from past years. But it was great not having to put up with the mob scenes and being able to get drinks when we wanted.

When midnight struck, Jenna and I each gave Ricky a long, warm kiss. Then Jenna and I shared a hot wet one. Ricky seemed to really enjoy seeing us girls make out. He said watching us was really making him hot, so we pressed our lips together again in a much longer and

deeper kiss. That time, we opened our mouths and let our tongues snake around each other.

Ricky clearly liked what he was seeing and said it would look even hotter if Jenna and I took off our tops. Always ready to try something new, Jenna and I removed them, along with our bras, then pressed our lips together again. The wetness that had already begun seeping out of my pussy started flowing as we kissed, especially when I felt Jenna's big breasts and hard nipples pressing against me. Things only got hotter when Jenna cupped one of my breasts in her hand. She planted wet kisses on my tits before taking my stiff nipple into her mouth, making me squeal with delight.

When Ricky asked me if my pussy was wet, I told him to check for himself. He unzipped my pants, slid his hand inside my panties, and rubbed them between my slit. When Ricky held up his wet fingers, Jenna put them in her mouth and sucked on them. She told Ricky how delicious I was and asked if he'd mind if she tasted more of me. Before Ricky had a chance to respond, I was pulling my jeans and panties down over my knees.

My body trembled with excitement as Jenna knelt in front of me and gathered the moisture from my pussy onto the tip of her tongue before covering my throbbing clit with her mouth.

"Oh, yeah, Jenna That's it " I cried out as she perfectly nibbled on my pleasure knob, setting me on fire.

I lifted Jenna's face away from my pussy and suggested we move into the bedroom. We made a mad dash and quickly took off the rest of our clothes. I pulled Ricky and Jenna down on the bed, then I pulled Ricky's mouth to my

breast and told Jenna to finish what she'd started.

Jenna eagerly ate me out as I exclaimed words of joy I never imagined I would: "Oh, God, Jenna. That feels so good " Jenna did indeed finish what she'd started. I cried out that I was going to come, and Jenna held her face tight to my pussy as I released the juicy proof of my ecstasy onto her waiting tongue.

"Now I want you to make *me* come," Jenna gasped as she straddled my face. She sat her pretty pussy onto my waiting mouth and I gobbled up her love juices. Within a few minutes, Jenna was writhing against my tongue and crying out her release.

Ricky, who had been waiting to join in, buried his cock into Jenna's pussy from behind. While I sat with my legs spread wide, Jenna dove into my pussy and tongue-fucked me in sync with Ricky's thrusts. His constant pounding sent Jenna into an eating frenzy. I was soon at my limit and came on Jenna's tongue. At the same time, Ricky shot his load deep inside Jenna's pussy, and she flooded his cock with her come.

Our incredible sexcapades lasted until the next morning. Five months later, we're still a threesome. There's no doubt this is turning out to be a fabulous year.—*C.D., Minnesota*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 157

"Ricky said watching us was really making him hot, so Jenna and I pressed our lips together again in a much longer and deeper kiss."

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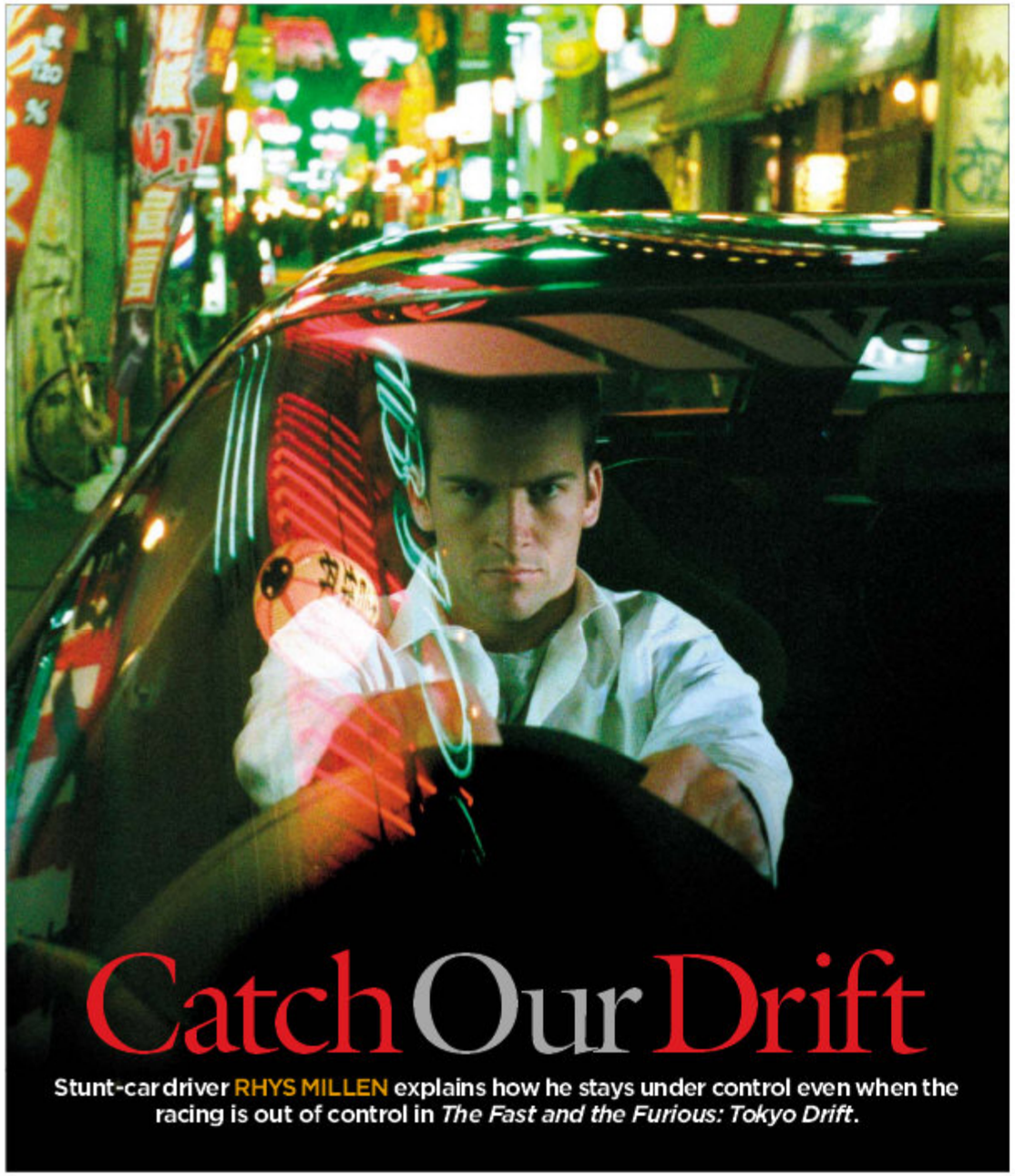
Blues Explosion

What better way to kick off our first music issue than with this classic 2003 portrait by TIMOTHY GREENFIELD-SANDERS of 62 legendary musicians? The photo was shot at Radio City Music Hall to celebrate Martin Scorsese's historic TV documentary on the blues. Greenfield-Sanders's book, *Face to Face: Selected Portraits 1977–2005* (Skira, $49.95), is on sale now.

Photograph by Timothy Greenfield-Sanders

By Samantha Judge

FEATURE PRESENTATION



Catch Our Drift

Stunt-car driver RHYS MILLEN explains how he stays under control even when the racing is out of control in *The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift*.

"We haven't destroyed one car ... unless we were asked to."

Rhys Millen discovered his true calling after getting to abuse the General Lee in last year's remake of *The Dukes of Hazzard*. In *The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift*, Millen isn't just jumping cars off a ramp and avoiding Boss Hogg. He's fishtailing and weaving all over the track at high speeds. It's called drift racing, it's huge in Japan, and it's more exciting than free T-shirt day at Daytona.

How do you distinguish yourself from other stunt drivers?
A lot of current stunt drivers typically use a hand brake because that's what's been passed down. For me, it's more of a long power slide and manipulating the weight of the car to slide it from the left to the right. It's power, it's speed, and after 12 years of commercial work, that repetitive maneuver makes you very accurate. After two features—*Dukes of Hazzard* and *The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift*—we haven't destroyed one car ... unless we were asked to. Typically, you're destroying one car every other day.

How are the stunts in *Tokyo Drift* different from most driving we see in movies?
This style of driving originated in Japan, and it is new to the big screen. We've all seen one car turn a corner, but we haven't seen two cars or even five cars turn a corner in unison. It's an unnatural state for the car, but we are completely in control.

What are some of the techniques used in drift racing that make it different from American street racing?
We actually use a technique called a "clutch kick," where we have the clutch in and we're revving the engine. That instantly spins the tires, kind of like when you're learning to drive stick and you let the clutch up too fast. Basically it's a controlled fishtail, but at higher speeds, higher wheel speeds, and with bigger slide angles.

How was it training the franchise's new lead, Lucas Black?
He was a bit of a tough nut at first. He was kind of like, "I'm from Alabama, I drive my four-wheel drive on dirt roads. I can drive." We set up the track for a couple of days for him to train. He showed up the first day and he said, "I'm not putting that helmet on!" I said, "Well, then this is a waste of my time. If you don't put the helmet on, then you don't get training." Once he actually saw what we did and what we were adding to the movie, he was a little more flexible.

Everything in Japan and Europe is right-hand drive. So I sat on the right side of the car and [Black] sat next to me. There are a lot of shots that really look like he's driving, but I'm slumped all the way down, sliding the car around. He's just mimicking my moves inside the car.

How often did you have to do stunt driving inside a studio for this shoot?
For the first few weeks we were in an underground parking lot with a polished concrete floor, so it was very slippery. We did three weeks up on a dam that has industrial-strength asphalt, which is very coarse and difficult to drive on. I had to use a lot more speed to slide the car. On the edge of 80-foot cliffs, we had to use three times more speed. One of the cars was a '67 Mustang. It shed off all the lug bolts and the wheel came off and set the car on the edge of the cliff. We did it without a safety net—and it wasn't planned at all.

Did you poop in your pants?
I had to get my blood pressure taken afterward ... but my pants were clean.

By Harry Knowles

HEAD GEEK

One Crazy Summer

As temperatures rise, remember: If you can't stand the heat, get your ass to the local movie theater.

Hey, folks. Harry here. This month is a grab bag of horror, comedy, and competition. Feel free to mix and match. But remember: No sampling.

Wassup Rockers

(June 23) **Jonathan Velasquez, Francisco Pedrasa**
Director: **Larry Clark**

Some people have accused Larry Clark of making child pornography, since his films *Kids*, *Bully*, and *Ken Park* had underage actors portraying teenage sex. While those scenes may be disturbing, I feel Clark is an artist who focuses on a segment of society that most adults and filmmakers don't recognize—real kids.

In Clark's latest, *Wassup Rockers*, we follow a gang of 13- to 15-year-old Salvadoran would-be rockers who wear tight pants and get punished for skateboarding in the ghetto of South Central, Los Angeles.

No longer welcome in their community, the outcasts head to Beverly Hills High for the excellent skateboard terrain and, of course, to get laid. And they do: in bedrooms, in the trunks of moving cars, in palatial mansions, in movie stars' hot tubs, and at gay soirees. The film loosely follows the structure of Walter Hill's epic cult classic *The Warriors*, which chronicles a different set of misfits and hoodlums. When the rockers get into trouble off their territory, it's a life-or-death struggle to get back to "where they came from."

Larry Clark is a genius at getting natural-as-hell performances out of teens with no prior acting experience. One of the standouts here is Francisco Pedrasa as Kiko, a charmer who is always just moments from the act (and sometimes in the act) of dropping his drawers.

This is a superior flick, and while the L.A. soundtrack wasn't my thing, it was integral to the characters. With Clark's signature underage sex toned down, *Rockers* feels like the filmmaker is finally focusing on the stories, not just the titillation.

You can read Harry Knowles daily at AintItCool.com.

Wordplay

(June 21) **Jon Stewart, Bill Clinton, Will Shortz**
Director: **Patrick Creadon**

Wordplay isn't about the folks who write our *Penthouse Forum* letters (though I'd kill to see that documentary). Rather, it's about crossword puzzles and the crazed "enigmatologists" who create them, solve them, and delight in them. You'll learn the dirty little secret that the Indigo Girls, Jon Stewart, and Bill Clinton all share. But mostly you'll get to know Will Shortz, the guy behind those darn confusing crossword puzzles in the *New York Times*. Shortz is only the fourth guy ever to hold that position. And if you doubt that the man's life is dedicated to puzzles, his puzzle library of 20,000 books and magazines is the world's largest. The doc isn't all just chewing pencils and scratching heads, though. It culminates with the intoxicatingly tense 2005 American Crossword Puzzle Tournament. I know it's silly, but you'll be hanging on every square filled.

The Omen

(June 6) **Liev Schreiber, Julia Stiles**
Director: **John Moore**

The 1976 version, directed by Richard Donner, doesn't look like it's aged a day—so I was left wondering why a remake is being made about a family that spawns Satan. The answer: 6/6/06. What marketing-minded studio could turn that date away? The movie is helmed by John Moore (*Flight of the Phoenix*, *Behind Enemy Lines*), but what's more intriguing is the cast.

While the original had Gregory Peck, Lee Remick, and David Warner, the new release stars Liev Schreiber (*Scream*), Julia Stiles (*Save the Last Dance*), and David Thewlis (*Basic Instinct 2*). The biggest surprise is Mia Farrow, who comes out of hiding to play Mrs. Baylock. You may remember Farrow's last supernatural film, *Rosemary's Baby*—one of the greats of the horror genre. I can't wait to see this movie on the devil's day. It really is the most delicious release date ever!

He's no angel. Seamus Davey-Fitzpatrick plays DEMON-SPAWN Damien.

Strangers With Candy

(June 30) **Amy Sedaris, Stephen Colbert**
Director: **Paul Dinello**

If you're familiar with the defunct Comedy Central show, you'll be well-prepared for this movie prequel. For the rest of you, *Strangers With Candy* is about a 46-year-old ex-con junkie whore who tries to turn her life around by returning to high school. Amy Sedaris is hilarious as the hooker in question, Jerri Blank, but the true honor goes to cowriter Stephen Colbert, who plays Chuck Noblet—a married but closeted gay born-again Christian who's having an affair with the hippie art teacher (Paul Dinello).

Celebrity fans like Philip Seymour Hoffman, Matthew Broderick, and Sarah Jessica Parker make quick cameos, but I'm disappointed the movie didn't try to push vulgarity further than the TV show. *Strangers* is still funny, but with a few filthy adjustments it could have been insane.

By Rebecca Swanner

Q&A

John 5

Since JOHN LOWERY's days as an itinerant sideman for a lesbian icon, he has been a member of Marilyn Manson and played with Paul Stanley and Nikki Sixx. These days, after laying down tracks on Rob Zombie's *Forgotten Horses*, John 5 has a house, a model wife (our cover girl, Penthouse Pet Aria Giovanni), and a spot on Zombie's tour.

You chose to leave your own band, Loser, rather than dropping out of the Zombie tour. Was that a hard choice?
I've been touring with Rob [Zombie] and the record is doing really well. Island Records was a little concerned because we were supposed to start touring for the Loser record and Rob wanted to continue touring. The record company wanted me to make a decision and I offered to bring another guitar player in, but they didn't want that. They just wanted me in the mix. [I told them] I was going to have to go with Rob and they were pretty upset, so I don't think they're going to be putting out the record, which is unfortunate because it's a really good record. There's a video and everything.

There are rumors you might become one of the new Guns N' Roses guitarists.
I'm staying with Rob. I'm not going anywhere. I'm going to be writing songs and touring with him for as long as he's doing it.

> "You're young and you want to go crazy. I didn't do drugs or anything, but I was so crazy with girls that I was bored."

Why did you choose him over your band?
We're having such a good time and there's so much going on. It's tough to be in a baby band. It's something I never really did, because [at] my first gig I was playing in arenas.

The Loser record is much more radio friendly than anything you did with Manson or Zombie. If it ever sees the light of day, how do you think your old fans will react?
They're probably not going to like it. [But] you have to have a little variety, and I'm fortunate that I can do heavy stuff *and* modern rock. That's what we want. I've written songs for so many artists who needed radio songs, [and] when I got out of Manson I wanted to write songs for myself *and* radio.

Would it have been your first tour in a van?
My first tour was in a bus. I've never gotten in a van. I called Rob [Zombie] on the road, and he's like, "What? You need to know how to change a tire on the van?"

That sounds different from when you were touring with k. d. lang in the nineties.
[The k.d. tour] was totally first class and then some. Private planes, a chef, a masseuse. That's when I started getting into country guitar. We played some of the greatest places in the world: the opera house in Sydney, three nights at Radio City [Music Hall], the Wang Center in Boston. A lot of places won't let rock bands in, so I'll probably never see them again.

Is that because rockers have a rough reputation?
Of course! [When I was with] Manson, it was crazy. There was a lot of destruction.

Did you cause any of it?
We played a big arena, and I took this golf cart out and was smashing it into the wall. The crowd was going crazy and I was like, "Woo! Rock 'n' roll!" Then they gave me the bill and I was like, "Oh … not rock 'n' roll." You always have to pay for your stuff, so I put the brakes on that.

People criticize young bands that get involved with drugs and groupies, but isn't that typical of musicians in their twenties?
You're young and you just want to go crazy. I didn't do drugs or anything, [but] I was so crazy with girls that I was bored. I met [Aria] at the right time.

Does she stay home when you're on the road?
Oh God, no. She comes because I'm a mess.... I've been so spoiled by her. I call her "Mama." She's beautiful and she cooks … doesn't clean, though. I'm a real clean freak, but boy is she messy.

You two just had your one-year anniversary. You knew who she was when you met her, right?
I didn't! I swear on my life. When I met Aria, I was like, "Oh, wow"—because I love boobs—"it's nice to meet you, and you're so sweet and nice and smart." And she's got great boobs.

Left: Photograph by Mitch Photo. Opposite page, top: Ewan Spence; bottom: Rachel Tejada

BOTH SIDES OF THE POND

The Streets (aka Mike Skinner) loves hip-hop. But how do MCs from the U.K. compare with Americans?

The New Danger "It's about how dangerous you are. I think danger is cool to kids, but it's to the point where you cannot be any more of a lunatic. Once you remove that danger, there is a void, and I think there has to be an element of rebellion to carry it through. It's probably got to be a bit more conscious. Maybe Kanye [West] is the start to that [because] he is still quite controversial."

It's Grime Time "Grime rappers are emulating the danger of the Americans. Grime was all of the danger, and hip-hop was the skill. The moment someone like Kano came along, who was better than any rapper in hip-hop *and* was grime—that was really powerful."

Lovers and Fighters "There's another side to British rap that is self-effacing and sensitive. Kano is dangerous, but he's also sweet. It's cool for hard kids to like me because I've worked with the hard rappers. Even when I'm being sensitive, I'm being genuine."

Rap Attack "The rapping is a lot faster [in England]. There are MCs faster than Twista, and have been for years, because of drum and bass. We rap like Dizzee Rascal."

Open Bar "[My drug use] did get a bit silly at one point. The more I travel, [the more] I realize [Brits are] honest about getting mashed up. Americans are really inhibited about getting fucked up."

Closed Legs "I think we're very inhibited when it comes to sex and success. I don't think it's likely you'll hear a song from me where I'm graphic about sex. It would be a bit disturbing to my fans and for me."

Secrets for Dummies "To make it in America, you have to say, *I want success. I'm gonna do the radio shows. I'm gonna travel around this huge country. I'm gonna sell this record.* That's what U2 did. That's what Coldplay did. A lot of bands in England don't want to admit they want success. I think it's one of the reasons British bands can fall down in America."

Easy Living "If you do the festivals in Europe, you get into the dressing room, you have a game of pool, you drink beer, and wait to go onstage. We don't work nearly as hard as the Americans, and I don't think we like to admit that we're working."

The Streets' latest, *The Hardest Way to Make an Easy Living*, is out now.

UNDER THE RADAR

TIME AGAIN earned their punk cred touring with the likes of the Circle Jerks, T.S.O.L., and Social Distortion before releasing their debut album, *The Stories Are True*, on Epitaph Records. Full of sing-along choruses and lyrics perfect for finger pointing, it's an easy fit for fans of punk-revival bands like Rancid and the Explosion.

REVIEWS

The Raconteurs

Broken Boy Soldiers (V2) ★★★★★

When we first heard that Brendan Benson, Jack White, and the Greenhornes were collaborating, we thought White's signature sound would dominate the album. We were wrong. Benson stretches to fill out classic rock–inspired tracks, and White meets his partner by tempering the power of his guitar. While there is more than enough distortion to go around, the record has a retro feel that references the Beatles, Crosby, Stills & Nash, and Led Zeppelin. Though considering the leanings of the psychedelic Greenhornes and White's penchant for making classic riffs sound fresh again, it's not surprising this album has a solid foundation.

Penthouse Pick: "Intimate Secretary"

NOTABLE MENTIONS

The Court and Spark
Hearts
(Absolutely Kosher)

Rhymefest
Blue Collar
(J Records)

Celtic Frost
Monotheist
(Century Media)

Your girlfriend might like:
Nelly Furtado
Loose
(Geffen)

★★★★

Keane

Under the Iron Sea (Interscope)
Though Keane's lush second effort is less dreamlike and more guitar-heavy than their debut, *Hopes and Fears*, these British stars still follow the same Coldplay-inspired path that captivated listeners the first time.

★★★

The Black Heart Procession

The Spell (Touch & Go)
The languid, eerie songs on this dark record bridge the gap between Nick Cave's Australian goth rock and American folk songwriting. Fortunately, there's also a heavy dose of post-punk that keeps it from becoming campy.

★★★★★

Pearl Jam

Pearl Jam (J Records)
The godfathers of grunge have at last fully left behind their angst. Instead of the emotionally charged melancholy that worked for records like *Ten* and *Vs.*, they focus on rock ballads and guitar-heavy Brit pop. It's unorthodox, but it works.

★★★★

Sonic Youth

Rather Ripped (Geffen)
The avant-garde superstars continue down the path they carved on *Sonic Nurse*, but with a nod to earlier days, when Kim Gordon's Nico-like vocals and Thurston Moore's feedback made songs like "Bull in the Heather" so memorable.

★★★

Guster

Ganging Up on the Sun (Reprise)
On *Keep It Together*, the little college band that could traded bongos and acoustic guitars for banjos, drum kits, and French horns. They continue to perfect their pop with songs that sound better in a concert hall than a coffeehouse.

★★

Bouncing Souls

The Gold Record (Epitaph)
You may pogo through some tracks on the newest album by these New Jersey punk stalwarts, but longtime fans may wonder why this "Gold" record is missing unforgettable songs reminiscent of "K8 is Great" and "Fight to Live."

★★★

Head Automatica

Popaganda (Warner Bros.)
Though this record is undeniably catchy, fans of Dan the Automator's work with the Gorillaz and Daryl Palumbo's brutal vocals from his days in Glassjaw will find these chirpy rock songs as shocking as they were on the duo's debut album.

Top: Autumn De Wilde; Guitar photograph by C. Taylor Crothers

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ADULT FREE
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ANYTIME

DEF LEPPARD
ROCK OF AGES: THE DVD COLLECTION
19 of the band's greatest videos for the first time on one DVD. Includes the previously unreleased clip for "Now."

RUSH
REPLAY X3 (DVD BOX SET)
Rush's first three concerts debut on DVD Rush Replay X3 Box Set. Featuring a never before released CD soundtrack version of "Grace Under Pressure." The package also includes reprints of the original tour booklets.
AVAILABLE 6/13

MARVIN GAYE
THE REAL THING
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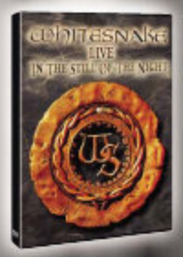
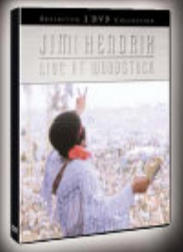
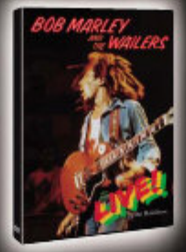


WHITESNAKE
LIVE IN THE STILL OF THE NIGHT
Recorded in October 2004 at the Hammersmith Apollo in London. Directed by celebrated live concert director Hamish Hamilton.

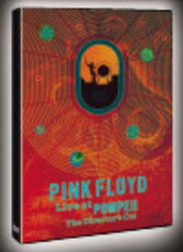
TEARS FOR FEARS
SCENES FROM THE BIG CHAIR
The story behind one of the greatest albums of all-time. Tears For Fears' Songs From The Big Chair. Kurt, Roland and bandmates all share their stories of the recording of this legendary album.



JIMI HENDRIX
LIVE AT WOODSTOCK



BOB MARLEY & THE WAILERS
LIVE AT THE RAINBOW



PINK FLOYD
LIVE AT POMPEII

PRINCE
LIVE AT THE ALADDIN LAS VEGAS

DEPECHE MODE
ONE NIGHT IN PARIS

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GOING SOLO

Blink-182 was all about creating humorous punk rock and not giving a fuck about what anyone else thought. TOM DELONGE's new project, Angels and Airwaves, is essentially the antithesis.

What's the message behind Angels and Airwaves?
It's this big metaphor for human nature. It's all about love and war.

Is that something you think about often?
Maybe because I'm a sensitive dude—I'm an artist—I'm aware of that stuff and have a lot of time to sit around and think about it. And maybe it affects me, because I consider it my job to write songs about that stuff.

How did this come together?
It started a year ago when I dreamt up an idea. I pictured what kids must be feeling today in a world where they can't trust their government, their family members are going to war, the economy seems like it's going down every year, and it's harder to afford college. The idea was to create a movement where the music is a soundtrack for people to think positively and do something with their lives—so tomorrow can be the best day of their life.

That's great, but is it cool?
Today, every band is wearing eyeliner and black, and they're all dark and screaming and crying. I think it's the most uncool thing in the world to come out with something so positive and bright and beautiful. That's what makes it cool.

Is the song titled "It Hurts" bright and positive?
[It's about] having a physical relationship with [your buddy's] girlfriend and you're saying to [him], "Your best friend is not your girlfriend." In the greater sense, [the song] represents [my] guilt of playing with a new group of people. It was a hard situation to find myself in. I've never produced anything before, and writing all the material and being solely responsible for everything … Obviously my band is there too, but at the end of the day, *I'm* the one who's going to get burned at the stake if it sucks.

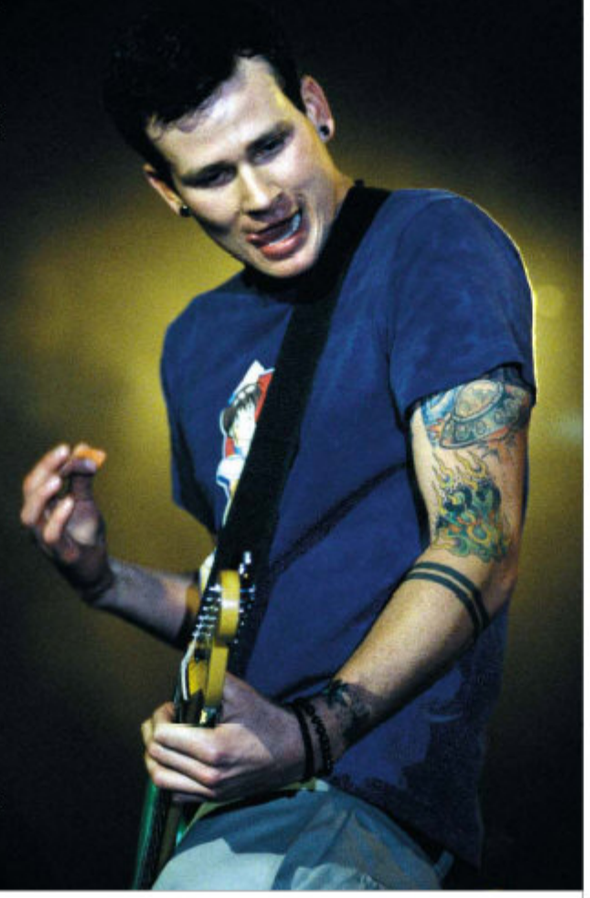
Was it difficult to produce your first record?
For the first three months, I really doubted myself. Then I learned I had to trust my gut feeling. I think artists don't do that enough. They're always looking at their label or their producers or their management. They gotta ask themselves, how bad do they want it? What do they want to be remembered as? How do they want to affect their fans? As soon as you start answering those questions, you'll realize you need fewer and fewer people helping you.

Some of the songs feel inspired by U2.
Oh, yeah. When I was in seventh grade, I collected every one of their records. They were by far my favorite band. Then I got into punk rock and didn't listen to anything but that until I met Joe Strummer. I asked him what it was like to be in the Clash and he said, "We used to walk around saying, 'Fuck you, we're the Clash.' But now I look back and the Talking Heads were pretty fucking cool." Right after that, we flew to Detroit, had some big radio show, and Oasis played. I was like, *Fuck! They're pretty rad.* It started opening my mind.

Why is one of the possible titles for this record *We Don't Need to Whisper*?
I think it's a good representation of how anthemic and heroic this album is. It's a call to arms for everyone who wants to be a part of this idea. It's also the very first thing we recorded. When I put my studio together and we were testing it, we put a microphone on the stand, took it outside, and turned it on. I went up to it and whispered, "We don't need to whisper."

How have you grown since your days in Blink-182?
With Blink, I was always learning. On this album, I know how to write songs and I know what my strengths and weaknesses are. I'm at that point in my life where I [can] create my big epic record. I think this is the album people are going to remember me by.

So is Blink-182 on permanent hiatus?
Indefinite. [*Laughs*]



Photograph by Tim Mosenfelder/Corbis

By Rebecca Swanner

BEST IN SHOW

★★★★★

Prey

(Xbox 360, PC) 2K

In this sci-fi title you play reluctant hero Tommy, who mows down alien life-forms on an organic ship. As you work toward rescuing your abducted girlfriend, you'll also have to learn how to use portals scattered throughout the craft. Discover hidden sections, activate gravity switches so you can walk on walls to access hard-to-reach areas, and maneuver in the out-of-body "spirit mode" armed with a mighty bow and arrow. By combining grisly graphics with heart-pounding action, the developers have created a title that's bound to zap our weekends away.

Body Count

What do you get when you cross a first-person shooter with a spaceship that's alive? Some really gross guns.

Crawler

Rip a leg off this squirmy three-legged alien and throw it against a wall to make a proximity bomb. Or tear off all its legs and hurl them at your opponent like grenades.

Launcher

Use this gun to pop out a bunch of Crawlers at a time. Or grind up the scavenger aliens and spray them like chaff to create an impenetrable shield.

Hunter Rifle

Created from the arm of an alien hunter's corpse, it delivers rapid-fire energy blasts until it overheats. The gun also has a sniper-rifle feature for sharpshooting.

REVIEWS

★★★★

Test Drive: Unlimited

(Xbox 360, PS2, PC, PSP) Atari

The beautiful island of Oahu, Hawaii: home to Honolulu, the *Lost* crew, and … street racing? Maybe not in reality, but the developers of the newest *Test Drive* thought the tropical landscape would provide an ideal backdrop for racing 125 licensed cars and motorcycles. Challenge others in preset races, or set up your own by honking at other gamers on the road.

★★★

Samurai Champloo

(PS2) Namco Bandai

In this game based on the *Adult Swim* cartoon, you start off as samurai Mugen or Jin, both of whom have distinct fighting styles. While the plot is interesting, the action, which is dictated by combo trees, is of the button-masher variety. What makes *Samurai* unique is that to switch your combos, you can pick up and equip music tracks (which feature their own combo trees) along the way.

★★★★

X-Men: The Official Game

(Xbox 360, PS2, Xbox, PC, GC, GBA, DS) Activision

This title connects *X2* to *X-Men: The Last Stand* (and explains why Nightcrawler is missing from the new movie). You can play as Wolverine, Iceman, or Nightcrawler through nearly 30 single-player levels at locations including Alkali Lake and the Statue of Liberty. Nightcrawler's sweet teleportation skills make his levels the best.

SEX GAME OF THE MONTH

LoveChess

If you've ever wanted to screw the hot girl in chess club (and if you were in chess club all girls seemed hot), you'll appreciate this sexy variation. Maneuver anatomically correct Egyptian or Greek gods into strategic positions—like doggie-style and reverse-cowgirl—to make your opponent submit. *LoveChess* gives new meaning to "stroking the bishop." LoveChess.nl

USE YOUR THUMBS

Monster Hunter: Freedom

(PSP) Capcom

"Freedom" says it all when it comes to this addictive role-playing game. Plan to spend countless hours completing a whopping 250 monster-hunting quests. And, as in the original console title, you'll have the ability to collect and customize items to form powerful objects and weapons that you can use to slaughter your reptilian enemies.

Alex Rider: Stormbreaker

(DS, GBA) THQ

The U.K. has been in love for years with the spy novels starring teenage special agent Alex Rider. Now gamers worldwide can learn how to spy like the professionals using Rider's gadgets and stealth vehicles. Skilled hand-to-hand combat is required to complete missions while deep undercover. He's not exactly James Bond, but he's getting close.

REVIEWS

Boys' Club

» The guys are back for a season of change, but even love interest Mandy Moore can't scare away the scantily clad ingenues.

In season two of *Entourage* ($40), Vince went from starfuckee to starfucker, wallowing over pop tart Mandy Moore. His family of hangers-on is drifting apart, and his agent Ari's career hit the skids, but there's still plenty of sex and brilliantly cast guest stars, including rapper Saigon and a cock-blocking Bob Saget.—*B.R.T.*

QUICK PICKS

SUNDAY DRIVER ($20) offers a rare look at the low-riding lifestyle, courtesy of muscle-car fan/documentarian Carol Strong and the Majestics—straight outta Compton, California.

Paul Walker's minor gangster is RUNNING SCARED ($28) when an incriminating gun, intended to be an insurance policy against his bosses, is used to kill a Russian mobster.

In KISS KISS BANG BANG ($28), Robert Downey Jr. plays a thief who accidentally gets an acting job, then—along with a gay P.I. played by Val Kilmer and the gorgeous Michelle Monaghan—gets caught up in a murder mystery.

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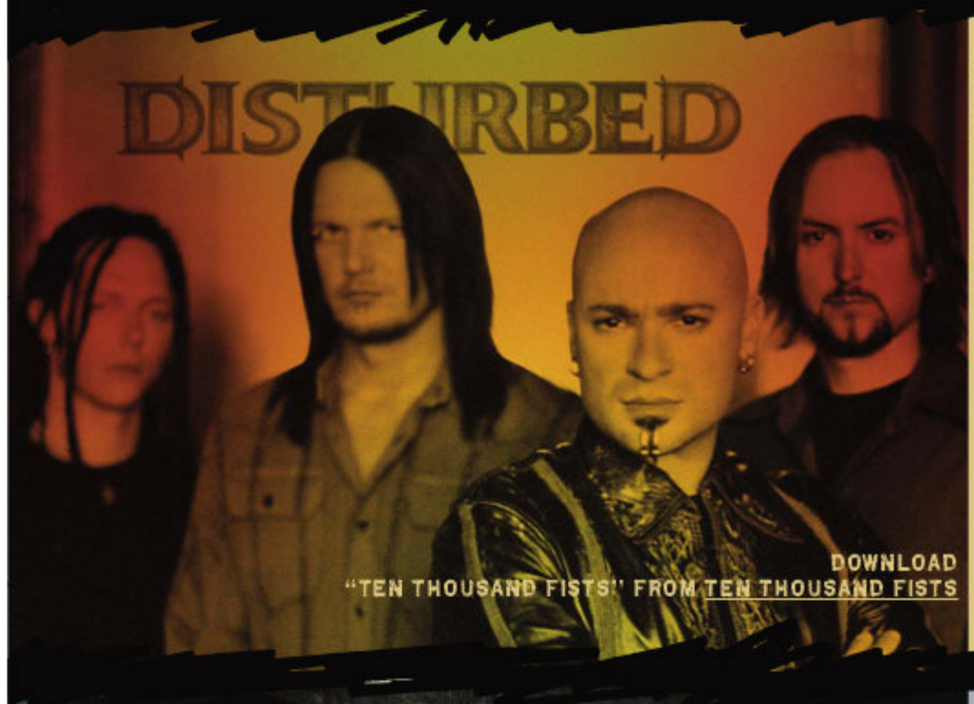
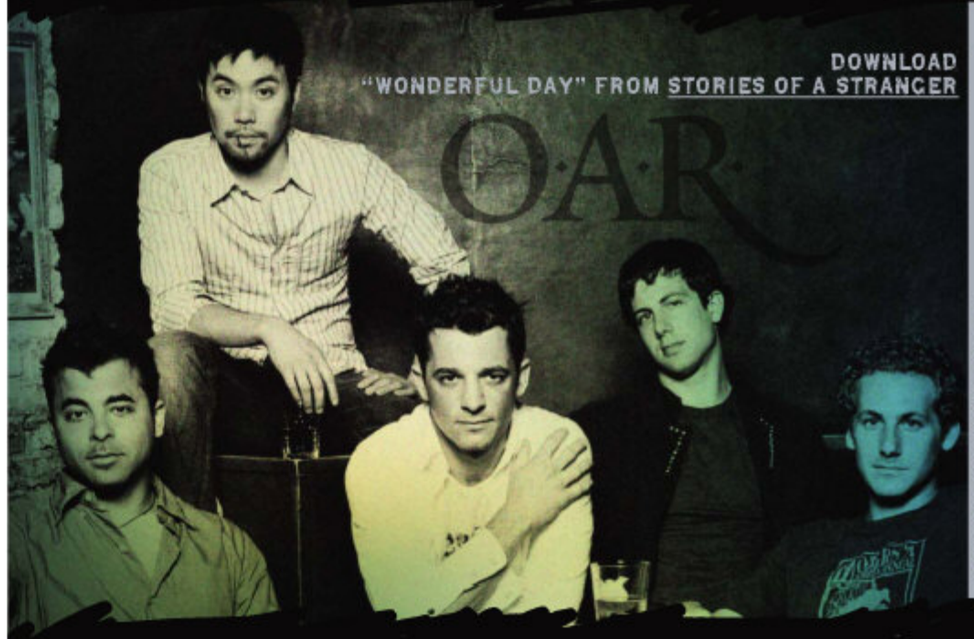


Following up on their multi-platinum successes, Disturbed fuses the brutality and darkness of 2000's The Sickness with the added melody and complexity of 2002's Believe for their third album. Aggressive, relentless and intense, Disturbed continue to blaze new trails while at the same time hearkening back to the golden age of heavy metal. Sample the title track from Ten Thousand Fists and be prepared to be pummeled by a transcendent musical force.

www.disturbed1.com

DOWNLOAD "TEN THOUSAND FISTS" FROM TEN THOUSAND FISTS



DOWNLOAD "WONDERFUL DAY" FROM STORIES OF A STRANGER

O.A.R., a band known for their energetic live shows, sold close to one million CDs before releasing Stories Of A Stranger, an album that captures the magic of the band's live performance in the studio. While staying true to their unmistakable rock-meets-reggae sound, the songs on the new album are concise with a high impact delivery. Experience a taste of O.A.R.'s island-vibe sound on the track "Wonderful Day", and see why their legions of fans grow daily.

www.oarevolution.com

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Well Versed in Thirst

By Rebecca Swarner • Photographs by Jason Tanaka Blaney

Drinking With the Devil

Jesse "the Devil" Hughes is not only the lead singer of Eagles of Death Metal, he's a beverage aficionado. The rocker took a break from touring with the Strokes to get personal about how to keep the brain properly lubricated on the road.

How did you come up with these?
I wanted the sexiest possible drinks for the sexiest possible magazine of all time.

Why did you select Jameson over other Irish whiskeys?
It has a really smooth taste, and I think their blending process is one of the finest.

Do you have a favorite name for a shot?
I don't know … "slow, uncomfortable sex up against the wall at the beach"? Isn't that a drink?

"Sex on the beach" is a drink. Any others?
[*Laughs*] The highball is one of my favorites because it's so quick and it has such a sweet little tight name. I also like Southern Comfort with a squeeze of lime juice.

When you toast, what do you typically say?
I always toast to new friends when I'm making them. [Otherwise], I toast to rock 'n' roll—or to myself.

Who are your best customers?
The blackjack margaritas are mostly for the sweet baby girls who might wander into the back lounge. I want to have the right aperitif for them, something to demonstrate exactly how much I care. I'm simply trying to say, "I want you feeling good, baby. Let's boogie."

Bar Bites

We play the concerned bartender as Jesse gets candid with a couple of quick anecdotes about his hard-partying lifestyle.

Speed Demon

"I was spending $500 a day [on speed]. I would pass out and claw myself in my sleep. I was eating a gallon of ice cream and drinking a gallon of milk a day to keep my calories up. Then I became lactose intolerant."

The Ladies' Man

"I love romance. Sweet talking … all the fun stuff. Seeing that certain smile on a girl's face when a romantic moment is happening—I like it so much, I've mastered the art of making it happen."

Call Girl

[*Shows us a photo on his cell phone of a hot naked woman*] "She gave me a blowjob in the parking lot. I've been having an affair with her ever since."

Fight Stage Fright

"[My first show sober was] scary as fuck. It was a stadium tour with the Foo Fighters, 25,000 people. I've never had stage fright, so it started to trip me out. I put on P-Funk, breathed a little bit, and said, 'Fuck this, people only know what you tell them. I'm not going to be scared.' "

Back in Black

"Jack Black is the funniest guy in the world. On ["I Want You So Hard"], he had to take a running start. Literally. [He said,] 'I'm going to go back 20 feet and I'm going to run up to the mike. That's what it's going to take.' "

Silly Love Songs

"I had this 19-year-old girlfriend who I had been in bed with for three hours. I was so turned on that I pulled on my boots, ran this beat, and improvised "I Gotta Feeling (Just Nineteen)" butt-naked. I felt electric. I finished and was like, 'What do you think, baby?' She got up, put on her clothes, and looked at me with this bizarre expression. I never saw her again."

Check out Eagles of Death Metal's latest CD, Death by Sexy, *out now.*

Strange Brew

If the Devil has learned one thing while being on tour, **it's how to make a tasty cocktail.**

Blackjack Margarita
1½ oz. Patrón tequila
½ oz. triple sec
½ oz. Chambord
4 oz. lime juice (or sour mix)

Fill a shaker with ice. Pour in Patrón, triple sec, Chambord, and lime juice. Shake and serve in a margarita glass.

Boots Electric Highball
2 oz. Jameson Irish whiskey
4 oz. club soda

Pour Jameson over ice and add club soda.

Grooming by Kim Bower; shot on location at Niagara Bar, New York City

GAMETIME

This Month in Sports: The Stats, the Scores, the Skinny

By John Bolster

PENTHOUSE TOP 5

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

In honor of Father's Day, here are the Top 5 father-son duos in pro sports history.

5. Ken Griffey and Ken Griffey Jr.
Dad won two World Series with Cincinnati's Big Red Machine (1975 and '76) and made three All-Star games. Junior was on pace to top Hank Aaron's career home-run record before injuries derailed his quest. The Griffeys are the only father-son duo to play simultaneously in the majors, and they hit back-to-back homers in a game for Seattle in September 1990.

4. Bobby and Barry Bonds
The father was a three-time All-Star, three-time Gold Glove winner, and produced 30-plus homers in a season five times. The son may have grown three hat sizes and suspiciously packed on 20 pounds of muscle after age 34, but he was destined to be a Hall of Famer before all that.

3. Gordie and Mark Howe
When your dad's nickname is Mr. Hockey, maybe that's a cue to choose another sport—or become a poet. Not for Mark Howe, who followed his legendary father (801 career goals, six MVP awards) into hockey and nearly escaped the old man's titanic shadow, producing 742 points in 929 games and playing in three Stanley Cup finals.

2. Lee and Richard Petty
Good ol' boys and NASCAR superstars, the Pettys are both in the Motorsports Hall of Fame. Lee won the very first Daytona 500 and three drivers' titles in the 1950s, while Richard has seven season titles and remains the all-time leader in career wins with 200.

1. Bobby and Brett Hull
Bobby, aka the Golden Jet, helped pioneer the slap shot and the curved stick blade. He led the league in scoring three times, took home two MVP trophies, and won a Stanley Cup. His son scored 86 goals for St. Louis in 1990–91 and retired with 741 goals—the third-most of all time. He'll join Pops in the Hockey Hall of Fame the minute he's eligible.

Honorable Mention: Archie and Peyton Manning; Ken Norton and Ken Norton Jr.; Moises and Felipe Alou; Dale Earnhardt and Dale Earnhardt Jr.; Calvin and Grant Hill; Tony and Anthony Dorsett; Don and Matt Hasselbeck; Bob and Brian Griese; Bill and Luke Walton; Henry and Mike Bibby; Rick and Brent Barry; Gordie and Marty Howe

Christian Petersen/Getty Images. Opposite page (clockwise from top left): Leo Mason/Action Plus/Icon SMI; Scott Halleran/Getty Images; John Springer Collection/Corbis; MLB Photos via Getty Images/Copyright 2004 MLB Photos

On the Record

"He cannot kick with his left foot, **he cannot head a ball,** he cannot tackle, and he doesn't score many goals. **Apart from that,** he's all right."

—Late Manchester United legend GEORGE BEST (above), on England midfielder David Beckham

LONG LOST TWINS

Cleveland Indians D.H. Travis Hafner

Veteran character actor Ernest Borgnine

There will be no "do-overs" for Goosen and company when the U.S. Open comes to Winged Foot this month.

We'll Take a Mulligan

Quick: Who won last year's **U.S. Open** golf championship at Pinehurst? If the answer isn't on the tip of your tongue, well, we'll let it slide because it was unheralded New Zealander **Michael Campbell**. The victory was Campbell's first U.S. PGA title, and the 37-year-old will be back to defend it starting June 15 at Winged Foot in Mamaroneck, New York.

Campbell will face stiff competition from 2004 winner **Retief Goosen** of South Africa, 2006 Masters champ **Phil Mickelson**, and, of course, world No. 1 **Tiger Woods**, among others. Not since 1984 has the Open been held at Winged Foot, a club rich in history (it also held the 1929, '59, and '74 Opens). Part of that history is Winged Foot's claim to be the birthplace of the term *mulligan*—for golf's informal "do-over" rule. No doubt you're familiar with the term—you take several every round—but do you know where it comes from? Even the folks at our go-to debunking site, the Straight Dope, took a drop on this one.

That's right. No one knows exactly where the term comes from, though there are several myths about its origin. Most involve "a guy named Mulligan at our club who hit a second ball after muffing his first shot so often that we ..." This is presumably the nature of Winged Foot's claim, but there are similar stories at clubs in Montreal and Essex, New Jersey. Another theory holds that the term arose in the 1930s and '40s, when Irish-Americans were looked down upon as duffers at upscale golf clubs. (Mulligan was also a common derogatory nickname for an Irishman.) The *Dictionary of Word and Phrase Origins* (we dig deep here at "Gametime") offers its own theory, suggesting that in the old days, family-run saloons placed a free bottle of booze—a mulligan—on the bar for customers to sample. This freebie became synonymous with the gift of an extra swing in golf.

But, as we said, no one knows for sure.

STARKS REALITY: Nothing fell for the Knicks' gunner in Game 7 of the '94 finals.

From the Penthouse to the Outhouse

The Fourth of July is just around the corner, and that can mean only one thing: The NBA finals are finally under way. Here are the best and worst moments in finals history.

PENTHOUSE

■ **Michael Jordan**'s last-minute flourish in **Game 6** of the **1998 finals** against the Utah Jazz: The legendary Chicago Bulls guard strips Karl Malone of the ball at one end of the court and hits the game-winning shot at the other, capping a 45-point, MVP performance and sealing Chicago's sixth title in eight years.

■ The Knicks' **Willis Reed** returns to the court for **Game 7** of the **1970 finals** against the Los Angeles Lakers after missing Game 6 with a leg injury. He makes a dramatic entrance right before tip-off, firing up the crowd, then hits his first shot and inspires New York to victory.

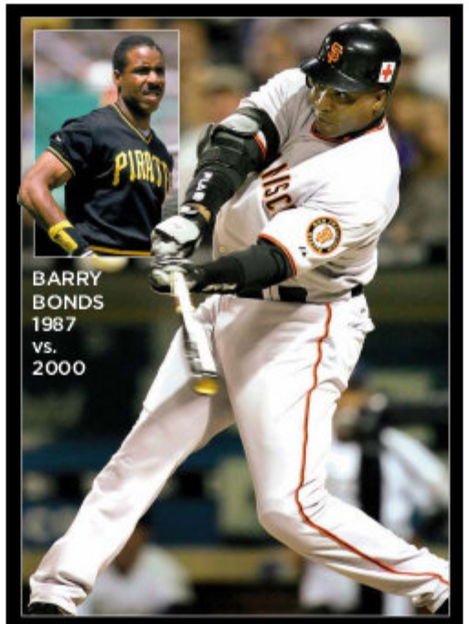
■ With teammate Kareem Abdul-Jabbar sidelined by injury, 20-year-old Lakers rookie **Magic Johnson,** normally a point guard, lines up at center for **Game 6** of the **1980 finals** against Philadelphia. In a virtuoso performance, he scores 42 points, pulls down 15 boards, and makes seven assists, pacing Los Angeles's title-clinching 123–107 victory.

OUTHOUSE

■ After his three-point attempt is blocked by the Rockets' Hakeem Olajuwon in the closing seconds of Game 6, New York's **John Starks** returns for **Game 7** of the **1994 finals** and produces one of the NBA's all-time stinkers. He shoots two for 18 from the field, including zero for 11 from beyond the arc, as the Knicks fall 90–84.

■ The **Knicks** make an improbable run to the **1999 finals** after a lockout-shortened 50-game season, then face the **San Antonio Spurs**—perhaps the most boring championship team in NBA history. San Antonio wins in five snooze-worthy games.

■ Some wags touted **Lakers** versus **Nets** in the **2002 finals** as a renaissance for the game after the dark years of the bruising Bad Boys from Detroit and the Knicks and Heat teams of the nineties. But at least those teams had a fighting (sometimes literally) chance. This one was over before it started, with the first finals sweep in seven years.



BARRY BONDS 1987 vs. 2000

Before and After With Baseball's Best

Let's compare and contrast these Major League makeovers. Draw your own conclusions.

JASON GIAMBI 1992 vs. 2001

Clockwise from top left: Jonathan Daniel/Allsport, Rich Pilling/MLB Photos via Getty Images, Lucy Nicholson/Reuters/Corbis, Stephen J. Cohen/AP Photo, Mike Powell/Getty Images, Cosmo/AFP/Getty Images, Fernando Leon/Retna, James Devaney/WireImage.com

Opposite page: Kai Pfaffenbach/Reuters/Corbis, Jamie McCarthy/WireImage.com, Paolo

WORLD CUP KNOCKOUT ROUNDS

On the heels of last month's World Cup preview, we bring you our picks for the second round and beyond:

ROUND OF 16	QUARTERFINALS	SEMIFINALS	FINAL	CHAMPION
Germany vs England	**Germany** The latest chapter in this storied rivalry goes to ... the host nation.	**Germany** It's good to be the host. Braun beats brio as Germany grinds out a result.	**Czech Republic** With Pavel Nedved pulling the strings in midfield and Jan Koller beating the Germans at their own game—free kicks into the box—the Czechs advance to the final for the third time in their history (the first two as Czechoslovakia).	**BRAZIL** The great Ronaldinho (above) hoists the FIFA World Cup Trophy for the second time as Brazil, playing in its fourth consecutive final, wins its second straight world championship and record sixth overall. No other country has more than three World Cup titles.
Argentina vs Mexico	**Argentina** The Tricolores can't hang with the Albicelestes.	**Czech Republic** *Allez* Les Bleus—back to France. Not enough left in their aging legs.		
Czech Republic vs Croatia	**Czech Republic** The Czechs win a high-scoring, entertaining affair.			
France vs Ukraine	**France** Andriy Shevchenko's dream ends here.			
Sweden vs Poland	**Sweden** Poland puts up a fight, but has no answer for the Swedes' quality.	**Netherlands** The Scandinavian Derby goes to the Clockwork Orange. After failing to qualify in 2002, Holland makes up for it with a trip to the semis.	**Brazil** Two of the world's most skillful sides live up to their billing as Kaka, Adriano, and Ronaldo outgun Ruud van Nistelrooy and Arjen Robben.	
Portugal vs Netherlands	**Netherlands** The Dutch in a barn burner—or should that be windmill burner?			
Brazil vs United States	**Brazil** All the U.S. has to do is not get blown out. Moral victories do exist.	**Brazil** The beautiful game at its most beautiful. Unfortunately for Spain, someone has to win.		
Spain vs Switzerland	**Spain** Spain erases memory of '02.			

SPEAKING OF KNOCKOUTS, OUR WORLD CUP OF HOTTIES TOURNAMENT HAS ADVANCED TO THE SEMIFINALS, BASED ON READER VOTING. HERE ARE THE FINAL FOUR:

YAMILA DIAZ-RAHI
ARGENTINA
Her team may be gone, but Yamila lives on. And how.

VERONICA VAREKOVA
CZECH REPUBLIC
Diaz-Rahi versus Varekova is a semifinal for the ages.

NINA MORIC
CROATIA
Mmm ... Nina.

ANA BEATRIZ BARROS
BRAZIL
Sigh.

To vote for your favorite hottie, e-mail us at sports@penthouse.com. For more on the World Cup and the U.S. team's chances in the tournament, check out our interview with American star Landon Donovan.

By Dave Hollander

Natalie Gulbis

What should we expect to see on the Golf Channel's *The Natalie Gulbis Show*?
We'll shoot ten or 12 episodes. So far we did a big photo shoot in Hawaii on the same boat where Nick Lachey proposed to Jessica Simpson.

I don't know if that's a good boat to be on.
I don't know if it's good or bad. It just *is*.

The Golf Channel also airs *The Daly Planet*, on which John Daly plays golf, eats, and drinks continuously—and his wife gets indicted. How can you compete?
That is tough. John's a great character, but he and I are pretty much on opposite ends of the spectrum. My show is just an inside look at the life of an LPGA player.

Hannah Teter listened to her iPod while snowboarding to an Olympic gold medal in the halfpipe. Why not tune in to some music through 18 holes?
I'd have to check on that. I don't know if we're allowed to have music. But I definitely have the iPod in my ears a good portion of the day: in the gym, in the car, on the plane, and out practicing.

If you could golf to one song, what would it be?
Probably something uplifting, like AC/DC's "Back in Black." Or that Eminem song. I can't remember the name. Would you know it?

Hum a few bars and I'll give it a shot.
Nooo! I'm not gonna sing it! I'll think of it later.

What are some of the best rivalries in women's golf?
Annika Sorenstam and Paula Creamer. That's always big. But Morgan Pressel, Lorena Ochoa, Michelle Wie—these are the players, some under 20, who are taking a shot at Annika.

There's some tension among the younger golfers. How often have you thought, *This club in my hand would make an excellent weapon*?
Never, because I'm pretty easygoing and we're all pretty good friends off the golf course. The Eminem song, by the way, is "Lose Yourself." You won't get to hear me sing it, though.

The 2006 Natalie Gulbis calendar shows you off the course in more relaxed attire. Which male athlete would you like to see come out with a calendar?
Let's come back to that.

Gulbis, who topped $1 million in LPGA earnings last season, has also done some fine calendar work.

"John [Daly]'s a great character, but he and I are on opposite ends of the spectrum. My show is an inside look at the life of an LPGA player."

The United States Golf Association looked pretty silly when it refused to sell your 2005 calendar at the U.S. Women's Open. How many calendars did they buy from you this year?
That is a great question. [*Yelling to her father*] "Hey, are they going to sell the calendars at the U.S. Open again?" The U.S. Open is the only tournament sanctioned by another organization besides the LPGA. The LPGA has always supported the calendar, but the USGA said it was too provocative.

We know you're proud to be the first LPGA golfer of Latvian descent. Would you play for Latvia in an international event?
I'd play for the United States unless the U.S. was not in it. I was definitely born and raised American. But I'm also gonna do stuff to promote golf in Latvia.

How's golf coming along over in Latvia?
It's really just starting. The best golf course is in Riga. [*To her father*] "Dad, who's the pro hockey player who opened a course in Riga?" It's Sandis Ozolinsh.

You make your home in Vegas, where it's good to be lucky. How lucky have you been in love lately?
Not very lucky. Pretty busy schedule, so no boyfriends.

Maybe it's time to think more about what guy you'd like to see on a calendar.
Brad Pitt. I'd definitely have that calendar up.

Photographs by (left to right) Donald Miralle/Getty Images, Jeff Gross/Getty Images

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Avenged Sevenfold is (from left to right) Synyster Gates, Zacky Vengeance, M. Shadows, the Rev, and Johnny Christ

Welcome to BAT COUNTRY

By Jason Buhrmester

Photographs by Travis Shinn

Avenged Sevenfold is bringing back the good old days, when metal ruled the world ... and they're taking us with them.

It's two hours before the doors open at the Gibson Amphitheatre in Los Angeles for Avenged Sevenfold's sold-out performance, and a dark-haired dancer in tight, low-slung sweatpants and black high heels is hanging upside down on a pole with her legs spread. She holds the pose, suspended, while another dancer steps back and looks her over with curiosity. Then she throws both legs on top of a metal cage, dangles upside down, and shakes her head back and forth. Behind her, stagehands wrestle with a series of backdrops and a technician struggles with a fog machine. Suddenly, a second fog machine spews a dense cloud, covering the stage, and a strobe light flashes intermittently.

Somewhere amid the fog and strobe lights roam the members of Avenged Sevenfold. Bassist Johnny Christ, with his hair freshly dyed flamingo pink, runs through lines on his bass while guitarists Zacky Vengeance and Synyster Gates noodle on their guitars and prowl the grated metal ramps that wind around their drummer, the Rev.

Among the empty seats, Avenged frontman M. Shadows stands with his tattooed arms crossed and a black baseball hat cocked low over one eye. The six-foot-five former high school basketball player scans the stage like a gym teacher watching warm-ups. He looks concerned. "We're the kind of band that wants to do as much as we can to put on a big show," Shadows explains. "We're of a generation where kids don't get to see those big rock shows. We try to pack an arena-size show into a club."

Shadows and the rest of Avenged operate under the belief that today's effort is only a warm-up for the day when they *will* fill arenas. They've studied the moves of Mötley Crüe like scholars. They've incorporated the pyrotechnics and levitating drum risers into their own sets, and the band regularly throws around stagehand jargon. They'll also admit to sacrificing cash that could have been spent on booze and strip clubs to make a concert for 6,500 people feel like one for 65,000. "We want the biggest show possible within our budget," says Shadows. "We played with Iron Maiden and Marilyn Manson in Europe, and they do it right. It was a big deal when those bands came onstage."

Getting to see Avenged play a giant venue might not be just a fantasy. The group's latest album, *City of Evil*, landed on the *Billboard* Top 40; videos for "Bat Country" and "Beast and the Harlot" are in heavy rotation on Fuse and MTV; and tonight the band will receive gold record plaques, marking more than 500,000 sales of *City of Evil*.

Back onstage, the entire operation has begun to feel like opening night at a high school play. As Avenged howls through "Burn It Down," a professional string quartet wanders in, lost in the fog and strobe lights, looking for their seats high above the drums. A tape machine breaks down, causing a moment of panic. The machine contains the band's encore intro music—a western-themed acoustic guitar medley played by Gates's father, Brian Haner Sr., a musician who performed with Frank Zappa and Tower of Power. Swapping out the machine causes bickering between the soundman and members of the Avenged stage crew. To break the tension, Gates suggests a song. "We'll play 'Bat Country,' " he says. "It's a fun song to play and probably the best song ever written."

The band speeds through

Photography by Kevin Estrada

their hit single, which is an ode to the late gonzo journalist and *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* author Hunter S. Thompson. By the time the five-minute metal epic comes to an end, the stage show has been sorted. The string quartet has settled into place, the fog machine is operational, and the pole-dancers have synchronized their routines. Behind his drum kit, the tall and lanky Rev laughs. "God-fucking-damnit!" he yells. "Are the girls gonna dance or what?"

Backstage, Vengeance and Shadows discuss the early days of Avenged. "We were crammed in a van like sardines, loading our own gear, eating ramen, and sleeping at bus stops," Vengeance says. "We had no money, but we still had a lot of fun. We'd go out and drink the headliner's beer and get smashed."

Back then, Avenged was another band in Southern California's growing metalcore scene. The band had been at it since 1999, when the four members holed up in Shadows's parents' garage—but not before sending out fliers to warn neighbors about the noise. They released a series of albums and yanked Christ out of high school to hit the road, playing gigs for $50 and getting stranded when their van broke down.

"We had a one-dollar-a-day allowance for each band member," recalls Vengeance. "We did a month-and-a-half-long tour and our goal was to never spend money on a hotel room, which wasn't hard because we didn't have the money anyway."

What the band did have was a following, which has been growing steadily since the release of their 2003 album, *Waking the Fallen*. That album was fueled by a brutal metalcore sound, lightning solos, and Shadows's scorching scream. MTV2's *Headbangers Ball* picked up on the group's video for "Unholy Confessions," and soon record executives began circling. The band had just signed with Warner Bros. when they reached a crisis: Shadows couldn't scream anymore.

According to doctors, years of screaming had aggravated Shadows's voice and caused internal bleeding in his throat. The singer and the rest of the band decided it was time to take Avenged in a new direction, but the change caused a backlash from die-hard fans.

"I hate when kids say that I don't scream anymore because I can't, when really, we just don't want to," says Shadows, visibly irritated.

Shadows began taking lessons with Ron Anderson, a vocal coach known for his work with Axl Rose, Eddie Vedder, and Scott Weiland.

"We saw this as a face-lift for our band," says Shadows. "No one wants to write the same record twice. No one wants to try and outdo themselves in the same style. We want to outdo ourselves in a completely different way. We wanted to make a record that was off the wall."

A turning point came with "Bat Country." The song's rock 'n' roll riff, combined with the new whine in Shadows's vocals, put Avenged closer to Guns N' Roses than Judas Priest on the metal meter. "When I first heard the riff for 'Bat Country,' " remembers Vengeance, "I thought it was fucking awesome. It was such a departure for us with only a few notes."

Avenged headed to Los Angeles to record *City of Evil*, a swirling 75-minute, 11-song epic album loaded with

spitfire guitar solos, apocalyptic references, and a 14-piece orchestra.

"There were a lot of things we would have normally done that we avoided," Shadows says about *City of Evil*. "There were heavy parts that we could have made super heavy, but instead we decided to go with more swagger. We brought the vocals down and added tons of attitude."

Vengeance reminisces about when the band realized they had written an album they couldn't perform: "We got thrown onstage without being able to play it right away. Sound checks were the rehearsals for these intricate songs that we'd written and never gotten all the way through. Good thing the world has forgotten about those shows."

With the group's new sound came a new look, one that is a mix of goth eyeliner, Southern California punk, L.A. hair metal, and hip-hop flashiness. Vengeance rocks a massive gold boom-box medallion on a long chain; altogether the band owns at least six sets of gold teeth. Shadows alone owns three sets, including gold vampire fangs. He estimates he's spent more than $12,000 on these grills. Gates has a different fetish: He treated himself to a .50-caliber handgun and a $1,000 hunting bow that he brings on tour.

Tonight's gig is only an hour from Huntington Beach, practically a hometown show, and the band has a full entourage of girlfriends and family members. The family-reunion atmosphere means Avenged won't be going wild—unlike a recent weekend in Las Vegas that was punctuated with hits of acid and blowjobs.

They spin stories about Shadows, the resident gambler, blowing through $5,000 during drunken online poker sprees; and Christ's legendary drinking, which earned him the nickname "Cross-Eyed Drunk." Vengeance

vouches for his ability to "function at zero percent brain capacity and still have two beers in his hand." They also expose the seemingly reserved Shadows as the group instigator.

"He's good at manipulating you into going out, even when you shouldn't," claims Vengeance.

"I just say, 'Let's go to the strip club,' " Shadows says with a laugh.

Vengeance counters, "It's like, fuck, dude, it's 3 A.M. and I've been drunk for 12 hours."

"I'll say, 'Come on. How does a blowjob sound?' " Shadows says convincingly. "You're telling me you can't use a blowjob?"

While Avenged mingles in their dressing room just before showtime, representatives from Warner Bros. unwrap gold record plaques and joke about a recent article in which Gates promised to hit a line of coke off their gold record if the band were ever awarded one. Vengeance had said he planned to wait and hit two lines when they go platinum.

But for all of Avenged's appetite for destruction, the members are also slick businessmen. One label representative moans that they shouldn't bother being secretive, since the band monitors sales results and has already figured out that the album has gone gold. Shadows, it's said, can almost always regurgitate the latest sales statistics for *City of Evil*, the number of visits to the band's Website, and hits on their MySpace page.

As if to prove this theory, Vengeance returns with his girlfriend to tinker on the big red piano in the room. Seated on the bench, he spies the gold records leaning against the wall and picks one up. "Are these the gold records?" he asks, unfazed. "Cool."

For a band that plans on filling arenas, a gold record is just a stop along the way.

The award party is a mix of back-slapping locker-room braggadocio and suit-and-tie marketing speak as executives shake hands with the band and describe "having a blast" with the new "partnership." In a world filled with musicians who cringe when faced with the business side of their industry, Avenged seems unusually comfortable. Gates laughs that the gold record is "bullshit" and a nearby suit is quick to agree, saying gold is "just a midpoint, dude." Shadows moves through the crowd, shaking hands and chatting. Watching him work the room, it isn't difficult to picture the tall, short-haired singer as a boardroom shark—sans eyeliner and lip ring, of course.

The show is a success. The crowd screams and leaps to its feet as the smoke begins to billow. Avenged charges the stage and tears into "Second Heartbeat" from *Waking the Fallen*. Shadows channels his best Axl Rose, wailing into a wireless microphone. He holds one arm stiff at his side as he sprints along the ramps surrounding Christ and Vengeance, while Gates holds his guitar upright and flicks out riffs on the upper frets. They plow through crowd favorites from

City of Evil before tackling Pantera's "Walk."

But the encore is the night's biggest spectacle. As the crowd screams for more, a cactus-filled-desert backdrop is unveiled, and the string quartet plays along with the band's western-themed interlude. Avenged floors it through "Bat Country," and the dancers bump and grind in skimpy lingerie as thousands of teenage metalheads watch in awe. As the group strangles out the song's final notes, the dancers leave their cages to writhe at Shadows's feet. The crowd erupts. For a moment, the 6,500 fans feel like 65,000.

Bellissima!

Our sexy calendar model savors the incredible Tuscan countryside and loves to frolic through the family stables. And we love to let her do just that!

Photographs by Roberto Rocco

We're looking for the hottest girls in America. **Go to PenthouseModels.com**

Liliana left her home in Verona and a career as a runway model to study acting in Rome. Her next move? Hollywood movie star.

This 34-24-35 siren just broke up
with her boyfriend. She's enjoying the single lifestyle
and daydreams of her next lover....

ow she's free to indulge her sense of adventure and penchant for exploring exotic places. See more of our Italian stallion fan at Penthouse.com/liliana.

Curl up with a good book.

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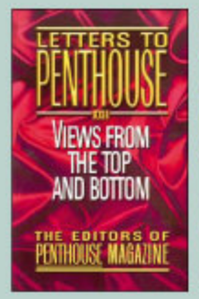
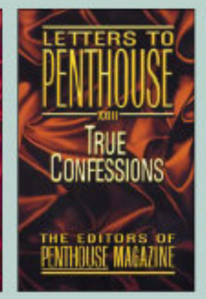
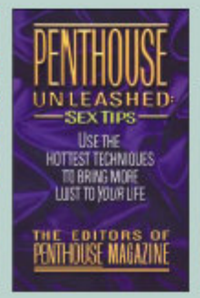
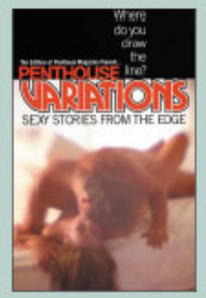
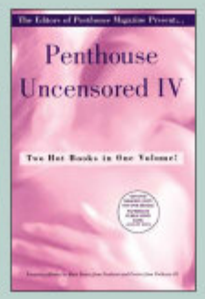
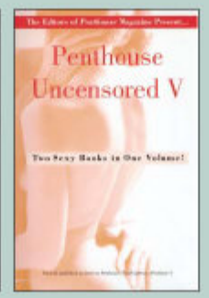












You've Come a Long Way, Baby

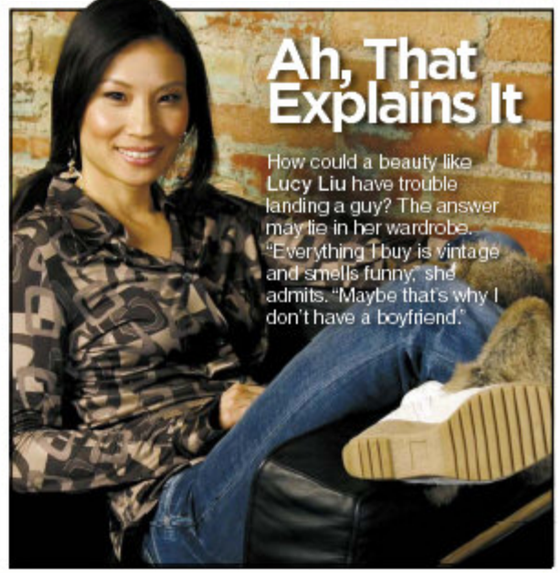
These days **Amanda Peet** is successful, having starred in such films as *Saving Silverman* and *Syriana*. But not long ago, her life was decidedly less glamorous. "When I was 19 or 20," says Peet, "I lived in an apartment [that had] a shaft outside the window, and people used to … get drunk and pee down the shaft. So the whole place smelled like urine."

Mama, I'm Coming Home

Is the voice behind your satellite-navigation system too robotic? Why not let **Ozzy Osbourne** blaze your trail for you? An impression of the Prince of Darkness's voice is available to download to your GPS from a British company called Voice Skins. Ozzy guides drivers with such colorful phrases as, "In 400 meters you have reached your fucking destination." If your system loses its signal, Ozzy yells, "I've lost the fucking satellite!" A version featuring his wife **Sharon** gives instructions like "Turn around, asshole!"

Wipe Out

The next time your girlfriend bitches about you leaving the seat up, tell her she doesn't know how good she has it. A Florida man is accused of fatally beating his roommate with a sledgehammer because there was no toilet paper in their home.



Ah, That Explains It

How could a beauty like **Lucy Liu** have trouble landing a guy? The answer may lie in her wardrobe. "Everything I buy is vintage and smells funny," she admits. "Maybe that's why I don't have a boyfriend."

Photographs by (clockwise): Dewell Weeks/Retna Ltd.; Neil Preston/Retna Ltd.; Henry Gartenfeld/Retna Ltd.

Frankly, Scarlett

Jonathan Rhys-Meyers, reflecting on what it was like to work with **Scarlett Johansson**: "I remember [Scarlett] telling me not to look at her tits.... But I did sneak a peek. I couldn't help it—they were right in my face."

Slice of Life

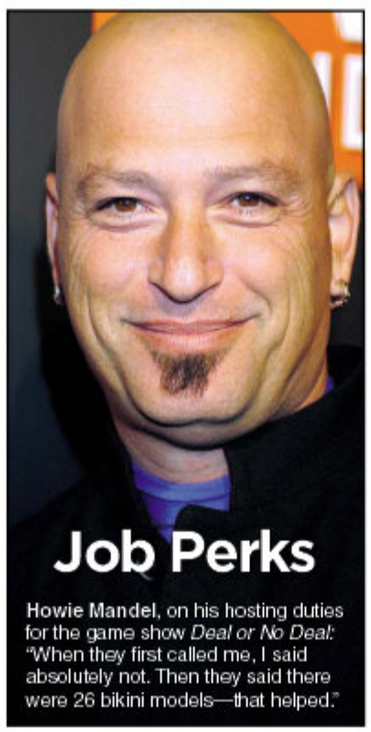
Three 6 Mafia member/lyricist **Jordan "Juicy J" Houston**, who won an Academy Award for the *Hustle & Flow* song "It's Hard Out Here for a Pimp," pointing out the differences between his rap habitat and the glare of Hollywood: "You're used to sitting in the studio with a bunch of guys drinking beer and smelling like something you shouldn't.... Then you pull a switcheroo and you're in a room with **Steven Spielberg** and **Reese Witherspoon**." Adds Houston, "She's sexy, man."

Girl-on-Girl Action

Neve Campbell, about her on-screen sapphic situations: "I think I've kissed girls in six movies I've made. It's a pattern that seems to have stuck."

Street Talk

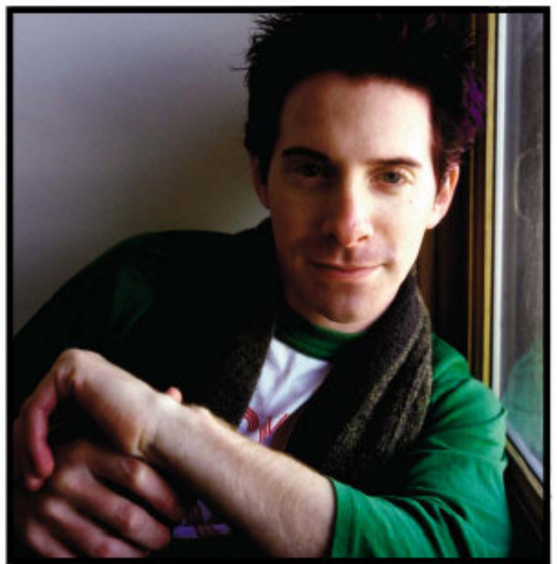
A contest to find the weirdest street names in America yielded some truly odd monikers, including Farfrompoopen Road in Tennessee, Divorce Court in Pennsylvania, and Psycho Path in Traverse City, Michigan. All roads were verified, proving that perhaps sometimes, the streets really should have no name.



Job Perks

Howie Mandel, on his hosting duties for the game show *Deal or No Deal*: "When they first called me, I said absolutely not. Then they said there were 26 bikini models—that helped."

Photographs by (clockwise) Lucy Nicholson/Reuters/Corbis; Tim Schmitt/UPI/Landov; Mark Savage/Corbis; © Rebecca McAuliffe/Feirra Ltd.



Easy Being Green

At five-foot-four, actor **Seth Green** is a man of small stature—but he doesn't let that come between him and the ladies. "I always meet tall women, and they're like, 'You're so short!' " says Green. "I've told 'em out loud, 'I've climbed bigger mountains than you, sis!' Ain't no shame in it."

Thai the Knot

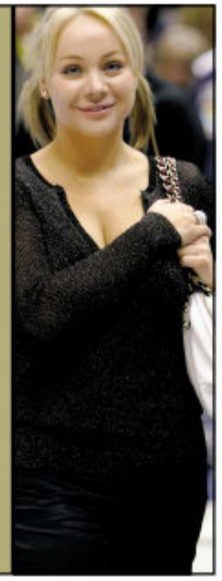
A Thai couple known as the Centipede King and the Scorpion Queen wed in a ceremony that any guest would surely describe as traumatic .... er, dramatic. The groom—who set a Thai record by enduring 28 days with 1,000 centipedes—placed a 'pede in his mouth, while the bride—who set a world record for spending 32 days in a cage with 3,400 scorpions—wore a gown adorned with live scorps. Then the couple climbed into a coffin to symbolically consummate their union.

Tit for Tat

No doubt **Jillian Barberie** is in shape, but she doesn't yearn to be a hardbody. "It was fun to have for a while," she says of the "eight-pack" and toned arms she sported for *Skating With Celebrities*, "but ... I lost a lot of my boobs—my boobs are real, contrary to popular belief—and some men thought I looked too hard. I like having curves more than muscle."

Big Love

Utah Jazz forward **Andrei Kirilenko** hit the matrimony jackpot. His wife, former Russian pop star **Masha Lopatova**, not only understands that women throw themselves at athletes—she tells her man to live the baller's life. It seems she's given Kirilenko a free pass: Once a year, he can have sex with another woman. "When I'm aware and I let him do it," she explains, "it's not cheating."



Scent of a Woman

"My vagina smells like a mountain breeze."
—**Sarah Silverman**, getting personal during her monologue at the Independent Spirit Awards

Photographs by (clockwise) Harry Gorkin/Feirra Ltd.; Sara DeBiasi/Feirra Ltd.; Dan Dion/Feirra Ltd.; Douglas C. Pizac/AP Photo

MOST WANTED

BEFORE ICE-T WENT FROM "COP KILLER" TO COP ON "LAW & ORDER: SVU" AND BEFORE SNOOP'S "DOGGY FIZZLE TELEVIZZLE," FORMER N.W.A. RAPPER ICE CUBE WAS MAKING MOVES TO BE THE BIGGEST, BADDEST MAN IN HOLLYWOOD.

BY BONSU THOMPSON

In 1990 rapper Ice Cube appeared on "Burn Hollywood Burn," by the controversial rap act Public Enemy. Sixteen years later, Cube (né Oshea Jackson) is more likely to earn from Hollywood than burn it. The 36-year-old Renaissance man is an actor, director, screenwriter, and executive producer whose projects include such cinematic notables as *Friday*, *Barbershop*, and *Three Kings*. Next year he'll star in the title role in the *Welcome Back, Kotter* movie. Even after years of music and motion picture success, Cube is just as determined to deliver social commentary as he was back when he was writing classic rap albums like *AmeriKKKa's Most Wanted*. Today his delivery is far from "Fuck tha Police." Cube and his production company, Cubevision,

are using projects like his FX reality series, *Black. White.*, and a new album, *Laugh Now, Cry Later*, to get his message to the masses.

Did the final cut of *Black. White.* turn out the way you had envisioned it?
It was hard to have expectations. We knew we had a good setup, bringing two families together and putting them in makeup. And we knew we could set up certain situations, but we didn't know what was going to happen once they got there—because it's reality. We didn't want to tell them to do anything they wouldn't normally do. I knew the situations were hot, and when I was getting the footage back, it was just getting hotter. Once I saw it cut together, I knew I had something different that could get people talking.

Was *Black. White.* your idea?
It was [conceived] by John Landgraff, who runs FX. He called [producer] R. J. Cutler in and asked if Cubevision could do it. So we brainstormed and I said, "Once I see the makeup test, I'll let you know if I'm in or out."

Race is a weighty topic, especially in America. Is there anything bigger?
It's hard to come up with something that doesn't make you think about race. I don't know one black person who doesn't think about being black every day. Thinking about what this white man's about to do reminds you you're black. Thinking about what the po-po [police] are about to do reminds you you're black. As far as black America, it's kind of in our chromosomes.

You were addressing racism long before your Hollywood career. Have you encountered racism in Hollywood?
Oh, yeah. You're gonna face old Hollywood that wants to keep the status quo. You're gonna face people who don't want you in the game because you're not a thespian. You got your own people hating on you in various ways. Like, we've been begging to get on *Oprah*, [but] she won't put us on. I don't know if that's racism, but it feels just as bad. You're always going to have people who don't want you there.

Is the final *Friday* movie, *Saturday*, ever going to happen?
I don't know. Another *Friday* might happen but I don't think we will ever get to *Saturday*. I've been talking to Chris Tucker and he's showing some interest. It's just about having a meeting and making sure that he's really comfortable and wants to be a part of it.

You just released *Laugh Now, Cry Later*. What does the title mean?
The album feels like laugh now, cry later when you listen to it, because you're jammin' one minute and the next you're hearing about our situation. That's one reason. Another is the state of hip-hop. We're really on a happy rap tip, [but] a lot of things need to be said. It had the perfect balance between fun gangsta records that everybody's into right now and message records that people aren't into right now. A lot of us [are] playing and not thinking about the way God's playing.

Are you a proud or concerned parent of gangsta rap?
I'm more proud than concerned. I would love to have been able to sit down with all these MCs before they came out, but I couldn't do that. There are some records I like more than others, but I'm proud that the music we started has been dominating for a long time and it's still popular, still raw.

"It's hard to come up with something that doesn't make you think about race. I don't know one black person who doesn't think about being black every day."

Was making this record like an itch you had to scratch?
I got the bug. I love hip-hop. I love to rap [because it gives me] way more freedom than movies ever could. It takes more than 100 people to put a movie together. There is always compromising. With a record, *I* could go in there—me, my engineer, producer, and nobody else. [When] I'm in there, [I'm] free. I can do what I want, say what I want, do it how I feel it.

You were originally supposed to do this album with Dr. Dre, but he got distracted with 50 Cent. You said you were trying to find a way to feed powerful messages to the people through infectious entertainment. Wouldn't waiting for Dre have guaranteed that?
Yeah, but I can't wait on nobody. I didn't build my career on that and I'm not going to start. If I had waited on Dre, I wouldn't have no songs done right now. So I couldn't wait. Dre is like the Wizard of Oz—you follow the yellow brick road but you still might not get to him. I've done more hit records without Dre than I have with Dre, so it is what it is. I'd love to work with him. Who wouldn't? He's the man. If he called me today, I'd be in the studio tomorrow.

Given your hectic schedule, would it have been easier to use a major label instead of micromanaging the project yourself as an independent?
Yeah, but it wouldn't have been this fun. And it wouldn't have been this inspiring. I wouldn't have had a lot of the connections that I'm starting to have with deejays. There are a lot of people who never met me who have been rocking my records all these years. Now I've got my chance to get on the phone with them and hustle the record. Let them know that I appreciate everything they're doing and are going to do for this record. And the masters … at one point, an artist should own all of his masters. They shouldn't just sign, get an advance, and at the end

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by SOUNDS EROTIC™

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of the day [not be able to] make the money they need to make off the music they put out. I felt that there's nothing a label could do for me that I couldn't do for myself. All of last year I didn't film anything because I wanted to dedicate all my time to the record—and I'm glad I did, because it's a better record.

If you had to pick one artistic outlet for the rest of your life, which would you choose?

Rapping, because it's the freedom. The respect I've gotten in the game, the love of the people, being able to voice my opinion—there's nothing like rocking the crowd with the mike.

What work best defines you?

On the record side, it's gotta be *Straight Outta Compton*, because that was the start of it all. Whenever I do an interview, N.W.A. always comes up, even though I ain't been with the group since '89. The group was that powerful. As far as movies, I don't think I've done it yet, but it could be *Friday*. I want to say *Boyz N the Hood*. I still get compliments on that movie. [But] *Friday* feels better because it's mine.

Will there ever be an N.W.A. reunion?

I hope so. I don't know. That would have to go through Dre, because if Dre don't do the beats, is it an N.W.A. album? Not really. So if he ever says he wanna do it, I'll be in the studio.

What's the difference between the Ice Cube of the outspoken *Death Certificate* and Ice Cube today?

Age and experience. A lot of people say, "Why don't you revisit the *Death Certificate* era with your lyrics?" I say if you really want that, then buy *Death Certificate*. There is always something new to be said. That music is gonna be there when I'm gone, so it's crazy to repeat yourself. I always look for other ways to change the system for real, not just speak on it. I did "Burn Hollywood Burn," [but now] I'm gonna burn the old way of thinking in Hollywood and be a trailblazer. Try to change it from the inside out. Back then I was young, mad, couldn't really understand the whole world, and was lashing out. Now I know I can get in there and change things. I can put black people in positions of power in movies. So I'm more active now than I am rapping about it.

If your new album makes only one statement, what do you want it to be?

I'm back!

RAPPING THE WORLD

We're taking you on a whirlwind tour of hip-hop. Bring your passport.

By Bonsu Thompson

Biggie Smalls said it years ago: Who thought hip-hop would take it this far? It's grown from a microphone and a boom box into an industry that grosses millions each year. There are break-dancing clubs in Japan, deejay battles in the U.K., and battle raps in Jamaica. Here's our look at hip-hop beats and rhymes gone global.

Style: New New York • Location: New York City
Here, most rappers talk about their crimes and conquests for street cred; first-person lyrics telegraph the fact that poverty is still an everyday struggle. Beats are aggressive and pulse with minor-key arrangements and fat drum hits.
Artists: Started by Nas, 50 Cent, Cam'ron, and the LOX, the new generation includes Saigon, Tru Life, L.G., and Papoose.

Style: Screwed & Chopped • Location: Houston
Normal beat tempos are chopped in half, giving them a warped, grinding sound. Sampled hooks are then tagged onto the new beat, resulting in a cut with a very different feel from the original.
Artists: S&C was developed by the late DJ Screw and brought to market by Paul Wall, Bun B, and Lil' Flip. Dirty South artists T.I. and David Banner followed up their album releases with S&C remixes.

Style: Hyphy • Location: Oakland
Hyphy is to the Bay Area what crunk is to Atlanta. The sound runs on combustive energy supplied by devout party people. Bass-heavy songs clock in at a frenetic pace, with call-and-response hooks that get the whole crowd shouting.
Artists: E-40's hit, "Tell Me When to Go," is primed to swing the doors wide open. Other notables include Keak da Sneak and Federation.

Style: Reggaeton • Locations: South America, Central America, and the Caribbean
Reggaeton is a fusion of reggae, salsa, merengue, and rap music. Dancehall or calypso music sets the pace, and lyrics focus on Latino struggles.
Artists: Daddy Yankee was the first to go platinum. Don Omar, Julio Voltio, and Hector "El Father" round out the scene.

Style: Canadian Hip-Hop • Location: Canada
These artists don't have a set lyrical agenda, and since the music originates from a motley melting pot (West Indies' reggae and dancehall, California's funk, Atlanta's reclined vibe, and New York's underground sound), the focus is on artistic expression.
Artists: Canada's finest are Kardinal Offishall, Saukrates, King Reign, K-Os, BrassMunk, Concise, and Checkmate.

Style: Grime • Location: East London, U.K.
Grime has resisted the popular U.K. garage scene that dominates England's dance clubs. Instead, it uses electronica and sparse break beats reminiscent of old-school hip-hop. Raps are culled from street taunts and challenges flung at rival crews with a dancehall style and New York City aggression.
Artists: Lady Sovereign, Dizzee Rascal, Lethal Bizzal, and Kano

Style: Hip-Hop in the Middle East • Location: Middle East
Nowhere does local culture have a greater impact on hip-hop than in the Middle East. Artists use intricate melody arrangements and tarab strings to weave an electronic interpretation of traditional Arabic music into their politically conscious, bass-anchored rhymes.
Artists: Rap crews P.R. (Palestinian Rappers), Hadag Nachash, DAM (Da Arabic MCs), and such soloists as MTM and Subliminal

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By Anslem Samuel

Leaders of the New School

From hip-hop and R&B to reggaeton, *Penthouse* presents some of this year's rising stars.

Lupe Fiasco

Since appearing on Kanye West's Grammy-winning *Late Registration*, Lupe Fiasco's industry stock has begun to "Touch the Sky." The 23-year-old Chicago native released his own Reebok sneaker earlier this year, and his skateboarder anthem "Kick Push" is starting to catch on.
Debut album: *Food & Liquor* (Atlantic)

Saigon

His lyrically dense and politically charged style has been praised by everyone from Jay-Z to Nas. After a slew of celebrated indie releases, the rap rookie signed with hip-hop producer Just Blaze's Fort Knocks Entertainment in 2004, and is reprising his role on HBO's *Entourage*.
Next album: *The Greatest Story Never Told* (Fort Knocks)

Papoose

This mix-tape messiah's unique combination of political satire, social commentary, and street cred distinguishes him from the standard flock. He was mentored by radio personality DJ Kay Slay and has collaborated with everyone from Busta Rhymes to Kool G Rap.
Debut album: currently fielding offers from major labels

Shareefa

Shareefa has it all in place to be the next R&B sensation. The New Jersey songbird, who's the latest addition to Ludacris's DTP collective, was introduced to music lovers last year via her powerful appearance on his compilation album.
Debut single: "I'll Be Around," *Ludacris Presents ... Disturbing tha Peace*

Consequence

He debuted in 1996 on A Tribe Called Quest's *Beats, Rhymes and Life*, making his mark as a vivid storyteller and skilled MC. The New York native stayed relevant by dropping several mix tapes. In 2004 'Quence caught the attention of Kanye West, who signed him to his label.
Debut album: *Don't Quit Your Day Job* (G.O.O.D. Music)

Rhymefest

Known in Chicago as a formidable battle rapper, Rhymefest's lyrics were enough to defeat the then-unknown Eminem in a 1997 freestyle contest. In 2001 he released *Raw Dawg*, produced by his childhood friend—Kanye West. They won Grammys for cowriting West's hit "Jesus Walks."
Debut album: *Blue Collar* (Allido/J Records)

Stat Quo

Despite hailing from Atlanta, Stat Quo defies the stereotypical image of rappers from below the Mason-Dixon Line. The lyrical juggernaut is the first Southern artist signed to Eminem's Shady Records. He relies more on mike skill than crunk content to deliver his street anthems and club-friendly tracks.
Debut album: *Statlanta* (Shady Records)

Johnta Austin

Johnta Austin was 16 when he penned singer Tyrese's 1998 breakaway single, "Sweet Lady." The Atlanta native went on to write hits for Aaliyah, Toni Braxton, and, most recently, Mariah Carey. His soulful voice eventually caught the ear of superproducer Jermaine Dupri, who then signed the budding star.
Debut album: *Ocean Drive* (So So Def/Virgin)

Stat Quo photo by Anthony Mandler, Johnta Austin photo by Michael Lavine

Rakim & Ken-Y

After winning a contest to find the next big reggaeton artist, they saw their "Tu No Estas" single break into *Billboard*'s Top 40 Hot Latin Songs. Their success continues with the release of their international debut and performances throughout the Americas and Spain.
Debut album: *Masterpiece* (Piña)

Yummy Bingham

She has a musical pedigree: The daughter of R&B producer Dinky Bingham has superstars Chaka Khan and Aaron Hall as godparents. She has a voice beyond her years, and has already worked with Mary J. Blige, Sean "Diddy" Combs, and J. C. Chasez.
Debut album: *First Seed* (Motown/Universal)

Wisín & Yandel

Featured on R. Kelly's 2005 reggaeton tune "Burn It Up," the duo of Wisín & Yandel has been stirring things up in their native Puerto Rico for the past six years. Insightful lyrics and infectious rhythms have taken each of their albums gold, spearheaded by the international hit "Rákata."
Latest album: *Pa'l Mundo* (Machete)

Rick Ross

Ross, who borrows his moniker from notorious drug kingpin "Freeway Rick," raps gruff narratives that detail the hardships of life on the streets of his native Miami. The bearded MC has generated a strong buzz with his infectious hit "Hustlin'," and will surely hustle and flow to another level after his record's release.
Debut album: *Career Criminal* (Def Jam)

Jody Breeze

An original member of Diddy's supergroup Boyz N Da Hood, Breeze is a charismatic Georgia rapper who prides himself on finding a happy medium between comic relief and hard-core hip-hop. For his solo debut, he collaborated with some of rap's heavyweights.
Debut album: *A Day in the Life of Jody Breeze* (Warner Bros.)

Sleepy Brown

Sleepy Brown has been laying buttery smooth vocals for more than a decade, including a guest spot on OutKast's "The Way You Move." A member of Atlanta collective the Dungeon Family, the crooner has worked with everyone from TLC to Ludacris. His undeniable charm and stage presence mean there's no sleep for Brown.
Debut album: *For the Grown and Sexy* is on hold since DreamWorks Records folded.

Killer Mike

Thanks to his inclusion on OutKast's *Stankonia* smash "The Whole World" in 2001, Atlanta rapper Killer Mike earned a Grammy before he released an album of his own. Mike went on to prove to critics that the accolades were justified with his politically aware yet humorous 2003 debut, *Monster*.
Next album: *Ghetto Extraordinary* (Sony)

SleepyBrown photo by Frank Micelotta/Wireimage.com, Killer Mike photo by Michael Berger/Wireimage.com

By Anslem Samuel

PUBLIC OPINION

PUBLIC ENEMY'S CHUCK D MAKES IT CLEAR THAT HE STILL HAS HIS HEAD IN THE RAP GAME AS HE OFFERS HIS THOUGHTS ON THE EVOLUTION OF HIP-HOP CULTURE. WELCOME TO THE TERRORDOME.

When hip-hop first sprang up in the Bronx in New York City in the seventies, the art form was about body-rockin' grooves, spirited lyrics, and having an all-around good time.

As the eighties rolled in, rappers began using their music to broadcast America's urban plight to the world. At the forefront of that movement was Public Enemy, a socially aware, politically charged collective hailing from Long Island, New York. From the mind of rapper Chuck D, the legendary crew released classic albums with songs like "Don't Believe the Hype," "Welcome to the Terrordome," and "Fight the Power." The latter became the anthem for director Spike Lee's groundbreaking 1989 film on race relations, *Do the Right Thing*.

Public Enemy changed the face of hip-hop, creating protest music that appealed to the masses. Chuck D expanded into other forms of political activism, and by 1999 he was an author, lecturer, and activist. Recently, he launched his own Website, RapStation.com, lent his voice to the controversial video game *Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas*, and hosted "On the Real," a political talk show on Air America Radio.

His career may be almost two decades old, but this rap pioneer still maintains a close connection with hip-hop, remembering back before it was embraced by all colors, creeds, and nationalities. So we had to ask, "Is there still political anger in corporate rap?"

Rappers are winning Oscars now. What did you think about Three 6 Mafia's performance and acceptance speech at this year's Oscar ceremony?
I was actually doing my radio show [that night].

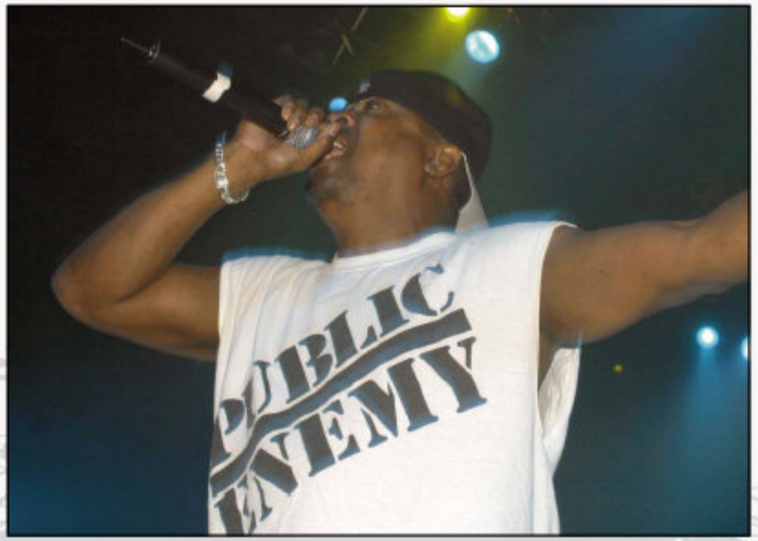
It was really quite entertaining. Did you ever think a song about pimps would go down in history as hip-hop's first Oscar winner?
Historically, I think it's significant that [34] years ago Isaac Hayes won [a Best Original Song Oscar] for *Shaft*, which was about a private eye trying to stop crime. Now you got Three 6 Mafia winning for "It's Hard Out Here for a Pimp," which is probably on the flip side of it. It's a weird paradigm.

Do you think a record about pimps and hos hurts the perception of hip-hop culture more than it helps?
The truth of the matter is, "It's Hard Out Here for a Pimp" is a rap song that represents history for black folks. So do you attach yourself to it and wear it like a badge? Or do you just say, "Oh, well, that shit ain't for me"?

Do you think hip-hop has gotten too sexual in recent years?
[Rap] music has always been sexual. I mean, "Hotel, motel, Holiday Inn / I say if your girl starts actin' up, then you take her friend ..." Come on, [those lyrics were on] the first rap record, [Sugar Hill Gang's "Rapper's Delight"].

How does that compare to songs today like "Put It in Your Mouth" and "My Neck, My Back"?
I just think it's gotten lazy. There's also a taboo aspect. In the past, cats went off on how much sexuality was out there. But now, information is so accessible to the youth audience that there's no borderline between [the sexual knowledge of] an 11-year-old and a 30-year-old.

So do you place some of the blame on the music?



"I think rap's gotta take on the challenges.... I know the job might be impossible in a dumbed-down nation, but fuck it—where else you gonna go with it?"

Why does an 11-year-old know about the strip club? They can't get in, so why should they know about it? It's because cats is selling it to them. When I was growing up, it was a different time 'cause you couldn't find adult sexuality just anywhere. But now you can hit the strip club at, like, three o'clock in the afternoon.

Are there any other changes you've seen within hip-hop over the years?
[Hip-hop] could stand to actually learn from other music [genres]. I think the biggest element missing today is the level of performance. Artists are extremely lazy because record labels neglect to develop whoever they sign.

Do you think that's the price you pay when an art form becomes an industry?
That's one of the things that always happens with music. I think rap's gotta take on the challenges instead of [taking] the easy way out. When a cat is rapping and he's 31, you got a choice. You can say, "I can either appeal to the 16-year-old and sell my shit," like Jay-Z said, or step up and build a whole new fuckin' audience. I know the job might be impossible in a dumbed-down nation, but fuck it—where else you gonna go with it?

Do you think artists are scared to try something different because socially conscious hip-hop is sometimes considered corny?
In order to not be corny, everybody ends up doing the same thing, which ends up being corny. Rappers have tremendous potential and talent, but I don't think the talent is manifested in the skills—only because of the labels' terrible job of managing and coaching.

What do you think can be done to take hip-hop back to its essence?
It's a balance thing. You're always gonna have a balance of style and substance. Hip-hop has always had style in it, but it also has to have viable substance. It's the corporations that balance hip-hop now, and we accept this because they're trying to look for the quickest buck.

Back in the day it was all about just having a good time, right?
Yeah, that's what's been missing out of the rap game. [A lot of] these cats are whack, but they have the potential to be better.

Photograph (top right) by Leslie McGhee/Wireimage.com

Service by Alyson Zamkoff • Photograph by Gorman Photo

Pit Stop

If your summer plans call for barbecues, beaches, and babes, no doubt you'll be working up a sweat. Make sure you don't create a stink as the mercury rises.

Black Out

Pit Boss Antiperspirant & Deodorant is an invisible solid that glides on without leaving white residue behind. It's hypoallergenic and formulated with vitamin E to condition your skin. Because even your pits deserve a little pampering. (GetJackBlack.com)

Get Axed

Keep your cool with AXE Dry Antiperspirant and Deodorant. According to the company, it will get the ladies "hot and bothered." (TheAXEEffect.com)

Two in One

Remember: Deodorant takes care of the whiff, and antiperspirant wipes out wetness. Depending on your needs, combining the two is often the best way to go. Clarins Men Antiperspirant Deo Stick keeps you dry *and* funk-free. The orange, lemon, and grapefruit scent is subtle—not overpowering. And it's alcohol-free, so it's suitable even for sensitive skin. (ClarinsMen.com)

Red Alert

Old Spice has you covered with Red Zone Body Spray, which provides controlled scent release all day and night. (OldSpice.com)

Be Happy

Say "Sayonara, stinky" with Happy Me Pit Guard from Sharps Barber and Shop. In addition to being color-free, fragrance-free, and itch-free, Happy Me deodorizes, kills bacteria, and soothes with chamomile. It can even be applied to your soles to fight foul foot odor. (SharpsUSA.com)

Cool Off

If the heat is on, stay cool with Degree Men Ultra Clear deodorant stick. Available in four scents. For a free sample, check out DegreeDeodorant.com.

A Sure Thing

If excessive sweating is dampening your confidence, try Certain Dri, an antiperspirant roll-on with prescription-strength aluminum chloride. It's formulated with water—not alcohol—to minimize drying and stinging. Apply sparingly at bedtime and you're good to go. It won't wash off in the shower. (CertainDri.com)

Sexy Spray

Woody's Body and Laundry Deo Spray is as useful on your lucky shirt—the one that's still in the hamper—as it is on your body. It's enhanced with Pheroxene, a combo of natural essences and human pheromones, to keep the ladies coming. (WoodysGrooming.com)

You're It!

TAG body sprays are designed to be used with your favorite underarm guard. Each of the four fragrances has a catchy name, like First Move and Lucky Day, and is packaged in a compact can with self-locking cap for easy transport. (TAGBodySpray.com)

Wipe 'n Go

If you're in the habit of spending the night at a babe's house and you need B.O. protection that's truly portable, B-Fresh deodorant towelettes wipe away odor. Each individual packet is the size of a condom, so it's easy to carry both. (TanTowel.com)

Pamper Your Pits

Caswell-Massey's Greenbriar Deodorant doesn't just look luxurious. It ensures long-lasting odor protection with a girl-friendly—yet manly—citrus/woodsy scent. (CaswellMassey.com)

By Rudy Maxa

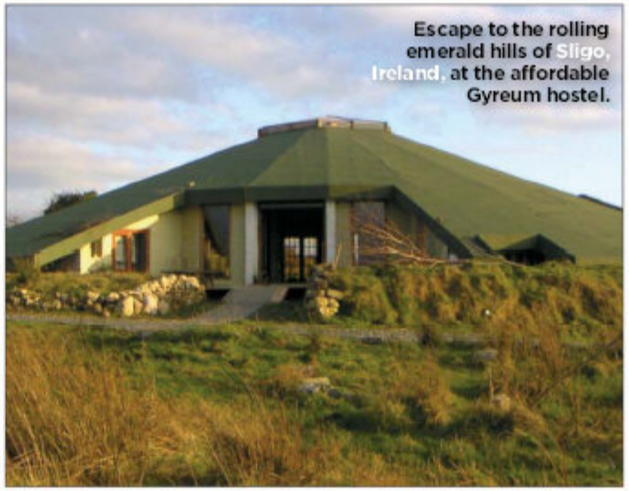
Edible Body Art

Dare to peel away the tasty layers?

Is there a bachelor-party dinner in your future? Here's one sure way to turn a bland meal with your buddies into a spicy treat: Fly your guests to Los Angeles and enjoy a sushi dinner served atop a beautiful, nearly naked woman. Show-business caterer and event planner Gary Arabia tastefully and strategically decorates models with sushi that rests on palm leaves, accented with tropical flowers. For dessert, a chocolate-covered model in a G-string leads guests to a molten-chocolate fountain.

Arabia has planned dozens of Hollywood bashes, including parties for *Everybody Loves Raymond*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, *Seinfeld*, and the *Austin Powers* movies. He's thrown soirees for Shaquille O'Neal, MTV award shows, Donald Trump, and George Clooney. But he also caters to the everyday guy who may prefer smaller dinner events. Prices are upon request, but figure on at least $700 per person for the full Monty. For more information, contact 323-850-2600 or visit GlobalCuisineCatering.com.

Photograph by Paul McKelvey



Escape to the rolling emerald hills of Sligo, Ireland, at the affordable Gyreum hostel.

Hostel Havens

Want to take a vacation without burning a hole in your wallet? Hostels offer unique lodging experiences at bargain prices all over the world. Visit these desirable hostels, which have been savvy travelers' well-kept secrets—until now.

- In Sligo, Ireland, the Gyreum hostel is a large, hobbit-like round building dug into a hillside. It's aligned with the sunrise and sunset of the summer and winter solstices, allowing beams of sunlight to illuminate the central hall. Rates range from $19 a night for a four- or five-bed dorm to $31 for a private room with a double bed.
- The Praakli Farm hostel in Saaremaa, West Estonia, is a wood-and-flagstone farmhouse surrounded by a forest and fields. Guests can dine on organic bread, vegetables, honey, and other foods from the farm. Rates begin at $25 per night.
- Behind the sand dunes of Mandrem, an Indian fishing village in North Goa, is the Villa Rivercat, a spacious retreat decorated by artists who have stayed there as guests. Private rooms with a bath cost $38.60 a night. If the rooms are booked, you can always stay in the riverfront hammock.
- The Sumpter Stockade Hostel in the Old West mining town of Sumpter, Oregon, offers military cots in the former barracks. Fortunately, modern bathrooms with showers and laundry facilities have been added. Private bunk rates begin at $15.

To reserve lodging in the world's most interesting hostels or to read guest reviews, check out HostelWorld.com, Hostels.com, and HIAYH.org.

Teed Off

Do you love to play golf on vacation? So does avid golfer Ainsley Barlow, who got tired of dealing with busy signals or answering machines when she was trying to book tee times on vacation. Along with her college roommate, she created the Website TeeTimesLive.com, which allows you to research golf courses and book playing time throughout North America, the U.K. and Ireland, Barbados, and Puerto Rico.

Hotel Hunt Refined

A new hotel search engine called SearchParty.com compares room prices from multiple Websites, whose results can vary greatly. For example, a search for New York City hotels in mid-July turned up lots of options, including rooms at the four-star Iroquois. Search Party revealed that LastMinute.com offered a double room at the Iroquois for $329.41, while Lodging.com quoted $265 for the same night and room.

Avis iTuned to the Music

If you rent a car from Avis by June 30, you'll receive free songs from Apple's iTunes music store. Enroll in the promotion at Avis.com to receive five free songs for every rental of one to four days. Rent for five days or more and get ten free downloads. Coming next: Rental cars with in-dash connections for your iPod.

By Mr. Skin

A MONUMENTALLY AROUSING NAKED DEBUT

Uma Thurman
This statuesque über-stunner has taken on heroically larger-than-life roles throughout her career, including that of goddess of love Venus in *The Adventures of Baron Munchausen* and "the Bride," a blade-swinging angel of vengeance in Quentin Tarantino's lethally cool *Kill Bill* movies. With the brains, body, and more than enough beauty to pull off such myth-proportioned parts, it's fitting that Uma turns up opposite Luke Wilson in this summer's by-the-comic-book romantic comedy *My Super Ex-Girlfriend*. Uma portrays Jenny Johnson, who is secretly "G-girl": a mega-powered titan who uses abilities far beyond those of mortal women to drive Luke batty after he dumps her. One talent that Uma does not display in *Super*, however, is her flawless knack for knocking audiences speechless by bursting free of her clothing. For a breathtaking blast of Uma's boomas at their bare best, return to her breakthrough film *Dangerous Liasions* (1988). At the 59-minute mark, 18-year-old Uma emerges from bed topless in one of the most monumentally arousing naked debuts in all of skinema. You'll be hard as kryptonite.

Maggie Gyllenhaal
Animated family films of late have embraced two distinct components that separate them from cartoons of the past: computer-generated imagery and celebrity-generated voices. The spooky-funny romp *Monster House* chronicles what happens when a gaggle of neighborhood youths discovers that the creepy domicile across the street is actually a living, breathing, and—most important—hungry creature. Among the vocal talent are indie icons Steve Buscemi, Jason Lee, Jon Heder, and Maggie Gyllenhaal. Naturally there's no nudity in *Monster House*, but even the most casual fans of the mouthwatering Ms. Gyllenhaal remember her star-making nakedness as the sadomasochistic lead siren in the 2002 kink classic *Secretary*. Less familiar but equally incendiary in the erotic department is the obscure HBO drama *Strip Search* (2004). As an American held captive in communist China, Maggie's fantastic flesh is utterly exposed throughout the film. Special kudos go to the titular moment 48 minutes in, when a grabby prison guard gives Maggie's baggies a thorough probing that will put a *Monster* in your pants.

"A grabby prison guard gives Maggie's baggies a thorough probing that will put a *Monster* in your pants."

Bryce Dallas Howard
This young actress is nearing the point in her professional life at which people will consider her in her own right—not just as Ron Howard's daughter. After several bit parts in her dad's productions, Bryce beguiled viewers worldwide as an adventurous blind girl in M. Night Shyamalan's *The Village* (2004). She returns to theaters this summer in another Shyamalan vehicle, *Lady in the Water*, portraying a mermaid who turns up in a pool maintained by Paul Giamatti. Between these two big-budget fantasies, Bryce made flame-mane fanciers' creamiest of dreams come true in *Manderlay* (2005), the most recent art-house outrage from Danish provocateur Lars von Trier. At the one-hour 41-minute mark, Bryce gets full-frontally nude and proves she's very much a natural redhead. That's right: Opie's girl shows her Aunt Beav.

Photographs by Mr. Skin

BRING THEM ON!

We're looking for the hottest girls in the world.

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AX GRINDING

There is no one perfect guitar, but there are a hell of a lot of opinions on what makes one ax better than another. The author's favorite, for instance, is the Ibanez JS-1200 (right). Four legendary guitarists weigh in with their own.

Article by David Alexander ✠ Photographs by Mark Mann

Hair: Leslie Ramirez for Benisty Salon; makeup: Kim Bower/Williams Imago Group; stylist: Sophie Collo

J. Page by Neal Preston/Corbis, T. Morello by Kevin Mazur/Wireimage.com, E. Van Halen by Lynn Goldsmith/Corbis, J. Winter by Henry Diltz/Corbis, E. Clapton by Neal Preston/Corbis, J. Hendrix by Hulton Archive/Getty Images, J. Garcia by Roger Rosenmeyer/Corbis

Jimmy Page
Bands: Led Zeppelin, the Yardbirds

First guitar: The Grazzioso: "[It] was like a copy of a Stratocaster."

Favorites:
1958 Gibson Les Paul Standard, 1958 Fender Telecaster, double-neck 12/6 SG, featured in *The Song Remains the Same*

Talking shop:
✣ "I used the Les Paul with the Yardbirds on about two numbers, and a Fender for the rest. The second [Led Zeppelin] album was done on the Les Paul, and I stuck with that all the way through."
✣ "I loved the sound of the Les Paul. I just found that I could get so much tonal quality out of it. It was very user-friendly to play as well."
✣ "You get a Marshall [amp] with a Gibson and it's fantastic; a perfect match. I've used Ernie Ball Super Slinky strings, although I usually sort of swap around gauges. I usually have it a bit heavier on the third string, and sometimes a bit lighter. It depends on what sort of mood I'm in."

Fast fact: Page used the Telecaster to record most of the heavy, epochal riffs on Led Zeppelin's first album.

Tom Morello
Bands: Audioslave, Rage Against the Machine

First guitar: A $50 Kay that was "nearly impossible to tune or play, but had a lot of knobs and launched the dream."

Favorites:
"Arm the Homeless": Kramer equipped with EMG humbuckers and two volume knobs.
"Soul Power": modified Fender Factory Special Run Stratocaster with two single-coil pickups in the neck and middle, a Seymour Duncan hot rail in the bridge, a mirror scratchplate, and a Floyd Rose–style locking tremolo unit.

Talking shop:
✣ "The guitars that are special to me are rejects, mutts, and Frankensteins."
✣ "My [second guitar] was my 'Arm the Homeless' guitar, which was slapped together with junky pieces and scraps but became the sound of Rage Against the Machine and Audioslave. [Another favorite] is a cheap Gibson Les Paul that was a cheesy, weak-sounding, beer-company promotional guitar. I gutted it, lit it on fire in the parking lot, put some cool Ace Frehley–lookin' pickups in it, and now it's my new favorite."

Fast Fact: Morello practiced guitar obsessively while pursuing a degree in social studies from Harvard University.

Eddie Van Halen
Band: Van Halen

First guitar: Teisco Del Ray electric guitar: "A $70 model with four pickups"

Favorites:
"Frankenstrat": 1961 Gibson ES-335 with P.A.F., single-coil, and humbucker pickups,1961 Fender Stratocaster tailpiece, Floyd Rose whammy, Linn Ellsworth neck with Gibson jumbo frets, Schaller tuning machines.
Peavey EVH Wolfgang: D-tuna tremolo setup of his EVH Wolfgang guitars, based on the accepted industry standard of the Floyd Rose double-locking system.

Talking shop:
✣ "A really good tremolo system can make a critical difference. If it's not there, you can't get certain effects."
✣ "Sometimes having the right guitar can make or break you."

Fast fact: In 1975, Van Halen bought the body for his Frankenstrat for $50.

Johnny Winter
Band: Muddy Waters

First guitar: Gibson ES-125 with no cutaway and one P-90 pickup

Favorites:
1964 Gibson Firebird, Erlewine Lazer, National Steel

Talking shop:
✣ "The guitarist is what counts, and the perfect guitar is one that feels and sounds right to the guitarist."

Fast fact: Johnny Winter popularized the "Rock 'n' Roll, Hoochie Koo" with his skillful use of the Gibson Firebird.

Ax Men

Eric Clapton
During his days in Cream, Clapton swore by the Gibson Firebird. He transitioned to the Fender Stratocaster in the seventies.

Jimi Hendrix
This legendary guitarist will forever be linked with the Stratocaster, but he used Kramer electric guitars in the studio.

Jerry Garcia
Grateful Dead lyricist John Perry Barlow says Jerry Garcia "could play a cigar box with rubber bands, and it would still sound great."

Rock your Style

Sex with hot girls, wild parties, and binge drinking not part of your regular repertoire? You can look like they are with this kick-ass rocker gear.

Service by Linda Giustino • Photographs by Brian Klutch

Anime Action
Koa vs. RKT T-shirt
RideTheRockett.com ($24)

Black Out
From First to Last band T-shirt
RideTheRockett.com ($18)

Look Sharp
Dude's Syringe tee
HeartcoreClothing.com ($17)

Bat Out of Hell
Men's "Bat" T-shirt
OrdinaryClothing.com ($18)

Go Gonzo
Hunter S. Thompson T-shirt
BeAwareApparel.com ($95)

Got Heart?
Angel Eyes Heart necktie
BuyOlympia.com ($30)

1. Headgear
Skull crest zip-up hoodie
RideTheRockett.com ($50)

2. These Boots Are Made for Rockin'
Dandy Warhol boot
Fluevog.com ($329)

3. Punk Rock Girl
Women's "Lock" polo shirt
OrdinaryClothing.com ($35)

4. Zip It Good
Women's "Eagle" zip-up
OrdinaryClothing.com ($40)

1. Bling Thing
Diamond skull ring
MerchantsAndThieves
@gmail.com ($6,300)

2. Strap It
.38 Luger pendant
MerchantsAndThieves
@gmail.com ($1,800)

3. Big Pimpin'
Gold chain
MerchantsAndThieves
@gmail.com ($1,400)

4. Lord of the Brass Ring
Brass knuckle ring
MerchantsAndThieves
@gmail.com ($5,150)

Hair: Lolita Ramirez for Bentley Salon; makeup: Kim Bowers/Williams Image Group; stylist: Erin Maus

1. Watch This!
"Tough Act" White Out watch
PaulFrank.com ($65)

2. American Bass
Green Day belt buckle
CinderBlock.com ($16)

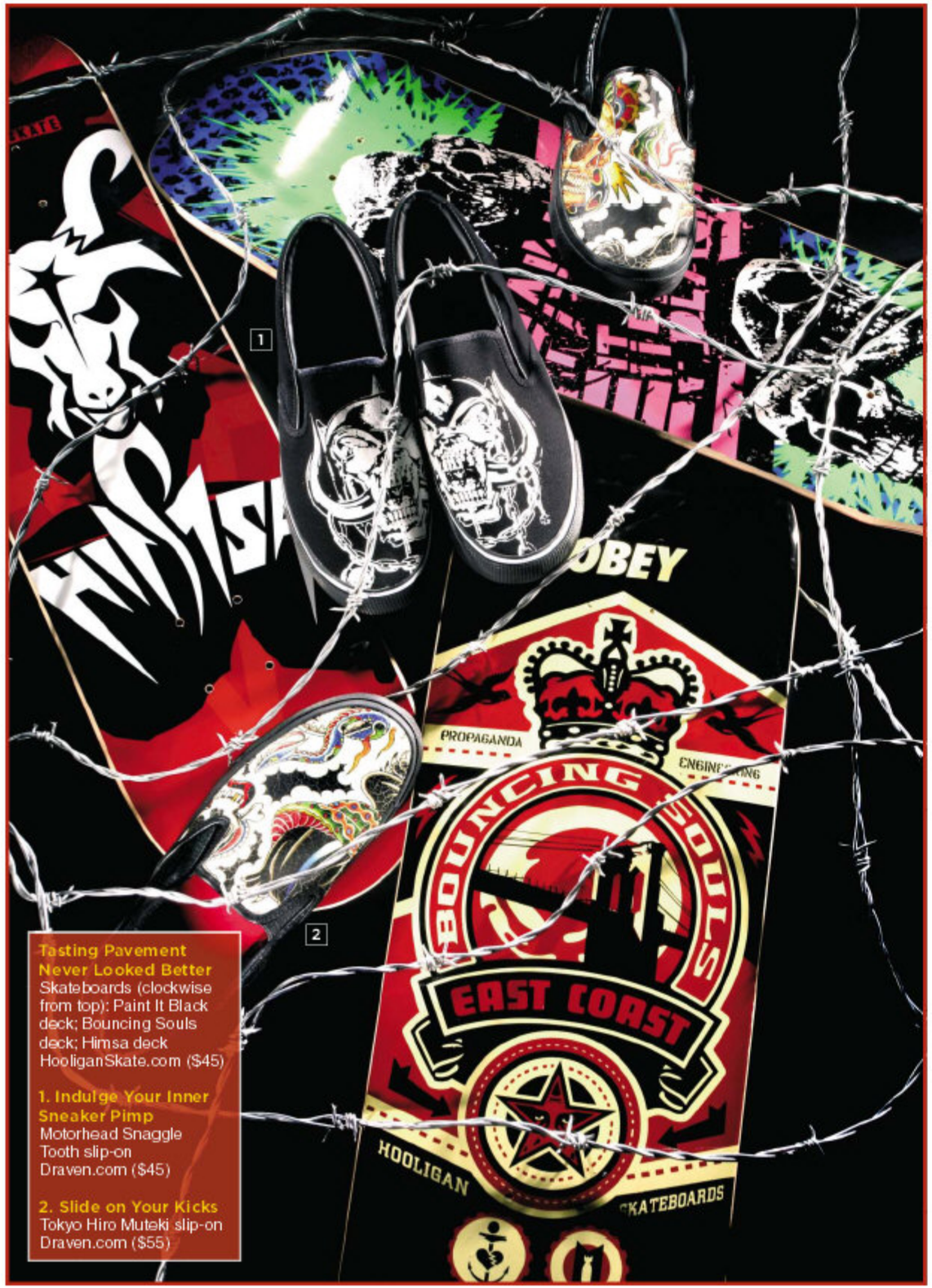
3. This Bomb's Made for Lovin'
Bomb charm
PnutJewelry.com ($85)

4. Mix-Tape Medallion
Made/Pnut sterling silver cassette-tape pendant
PnutJewelry.com ($120)

5. Hard-Core Metal
Death by Stereo belt buckle
CinderBlock.com ($12)

6. Get Spun
St. Grandmaster Flash pendant
Hannah-Clark.com ($100)

7. Fork You
Pitchfork logo necklace
PitchforkNY.com ($15)



Tasting Pavement Never Looked Better
Skateboards (clockwise from top): Paint It Black deck; Bouncing Souls deck; Himsa deck HooliganSkate.com ($45)

1. Indulge Your Inner Sneaker Pimp
Motorhead Snaggle Tooth slip-on Draven.com ($45)

2. Slide on Your Kicks
Tokyo Hiro Muteki slip-on Draven.com ($55)

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Stop Chasing the Women You Desire and Start Attracting Them… FREE Report Reveals How

"What If Everything You Ever Thought You Knew About Women, Dating and Relationships Was Just Plain WRONG?"

WARNING: *When You Put These Forbidden Attraction Secrets to Work,* ***Women Are Magnetically Compelled to Approach YOU First****, No Matter Your Looks, Age or Income… You Must Be Careful NOT to Attract Too Many Women Too Fast. Read my message below to find out how…*

If you are frustrated with your relationships with women, and want to spend your time with **desirable women *who all approached you first***, this may be the most important message you ever read. Here's why:

My name is John Alanis, and I used to be a complete loser when it came to meeting women (**even ugly ones**). Whenever I saw a beautiful woman I got so scared, I literally made myself sick at the thought of approaching her. I'd walk away, wondering "what could have been" if I'd only had the "guts" to talk to her. **Maybe you've had a similar experience.** Here's what was even more frustrating: on those few occasions when I was "lucky enough" to get a "date" I never got a second one…. **instead she always told me what a "nice guy"** I was, but she "just wasn't attracted to me." And then she'd go moon over some "jerk" who cared nothing about her, and would *dump* her for her best friend at a moment's notice!

Has that happened to you? **It sucks, doesn't it?** But it gets worse… what would happen next is, one of these jerks would dump the woman I *secretly lusted after*, and she'd come crying to me, telling me what a great "friend" I was for "listening"… and she'd move to the next "jerk," crushing my feelings like a grape. The one time I did have a "steady girlfriend," I discovered **she was just using me for money**, even though I really didn't have much of that. She never had a problem taking what little I did have, though.

I was beginning to think I'd be "celibate for life," when an unusual thing happened that put me on the true path to "male liberation" and literally **allows me to attract any woman I want, on demand! And, I'm convinced any man can duplicate my success, no matter your looks, age, or income.**

Skeptical? I don't blame you… if you'd told me a few months ago I'd be able to compel desirable women to boldly walk up and talk to me, **I'd have called you a big, fat liar, right to your face.**

How I "Accidentally" Raised Myself From Failure to Success with Desirable Women

I've always been fascinated by psychology, and the one thing I've always had going for me is the obsessive will to learn new things. Anyways, I was at a seminar awhile back, listening to a short, fat, dumpy guy speak on the subject of advertising. What this guy had to say about what makes people "tick" was truly amazing… but what was even more amazing was the **reaction of all the women in the audience to him after he was done speaking!** They all **rushed** to him, **vying for his attention.** And these weren't ugly women…. **they were intelligent, desirable, *beautiful* businesswomen… who all went "gaga" like little girls over this short, fat, dumpy guy!** I watched him take the numbers of 3 drop-dead gorgeous women before he finally left. I had to know this guy's secret…. how could someone **that ugly** literally have hot, sexy women throw themselves at him?

The Amazing "Natural Attraction" Secrets of A Desperate Nerd From Texas!

Luckily, I was able to corner him before he left the room, and I somehow talked him into having dinner with me. As we sat down to eat, I asked him, point blank "Look, you're not exactly the best looking guy in the world… **in fact you look sort of like a basset hound. Yet, you have hot women throwing themselves at you**… what's your secret? What do you do? And, will it work for me?"

He laughed when I said that. Then he told me something I'll never forget as long as I live: "John," he said, "I've been in advertising for a long, long time, and I've been involved in amazing research into what makes people buy things."

"The psychological processes that get people to buy are **the exact same processes that get women to become attracted to you.** I used to be a complete loser when it came to women, until I applied what I learned in my advertising career to my love life. And ever since then, the results have been phenomenal."

"The truth is, **every man is already 'naturally attractive'**… it's biologically programmed into us, much like it is with animals in nature. But, in our modern society we've gotten away from our natural instincts and are taught the opposite of what works."

"All you have to do is "switch on" the biologically programmed "attraction triggers" all women have deep inside, **then stand back and let them come to you. Looks don't matter, age doesn't matter, income doesn't matter… all those things we've been taught about 'dating' and 'romance' are just plain wrong. Stop dating, and start attracting… it's really simple."**

Most Men Do NOT Attract Women Simply Because They Were Never Taught How!

Then he told me step-by-step exactly how he attracted women, and how I could do the same. As he talked, I realized **he had truly, "cracked the code"** and that **attracting women was nothing more than a paint-by-numbers, step-by-step, brain-dead simple process.** It **works for every man** because you're already born with natural attraction that is genetically designed to "flip on" biological attraction . **It can't not work.**

Here Are A Few of These Remarkable Secrets

- **How to tap into your natural attraction to "magnetically draw" the most desirable women to you** (they'll come up and talk to you first, already "pre-disposed" to liking you…)
- The seven deadly turn-offs that will guarantee you instant failure with any woman (**if you're currently failing with women, it's because you're unconsciously broadcasting one… and probably more… of these attraction-killing turn-off's**)
- **The amazing "romance novel hero" secret** that will have **her thinking about you** (and ONLY you) even when you're not around (not one in a thousand men knows this simple secret, yet it's incredibly powerful—never be cheated on again)
- **Just looking for a "casual encounter?"** Here's how to tell (within 15 minutes) if she's open to being your **"adventure partner"** or **"special friend"** (and many more women ARE than you think) or if she's only interested in a committed relationship (this secret lets you avoid giving a woman "false expectations" so you won't "hurt" her like all those jerks out there do)
- **How to use a subtle "test" to discover if she's even qualified to spend time with you** (this is the ultimate "turning of the tables"— women test men over and over…. now you get to test her to see if she's "good enough" for you… **and make sure she's not a stalker, gold-digger or psycho-path)**
- **How to read little known female signals that let you know she's attracted to you (and why you must act immediately** when you sense these, or risk losing a woman who wants you, now)
- Secrets to using your body language for **maximum "attraction effect"** (the wrong kind will **turn women off**… the right kind can have them flocking to you)
- **How to attract women by saying nothing at all!**
- Shy? **Here's how to use your "shyness"** to literally force women to chase you (they won't think you're "shy" at all, they'll think you're "mysterious" and "challenging" and wonder what it takes to get you to "open up!")
- How to "position" yourself so **multiple women compete for your attention** (never compete with other men again… now they can jealously watch women chase you, and wonder what YOUR secret is)
- **How to never be nervous or flustered** ever again when talking to women (when they approach you, it's remarkably simple to be calm, cool, and collected… you get to make the "rejection decision," not her)
- How to **never spend more than $1.84 on a "first date"** and have her thinking it was the best "date" she ever had (she'll be dying to see you again… IF you decide she's "your type," not the other way around)
- **How to create an "automatic referral system"** that *compels* your female friends to compete with each other to see **who can bring you the most women**

… and much more. Look, no matter if you want to **meet a woman for purely "physical reasons,"** or **you truly, deeply want to meet that "special woman"** to spend the rest of your life with these secrets have the power to…

Give You Absolute Power and Control Over All Your Romantic Outcomes For Life

Let's cut to the chase. You have just read a detailed description of these remarkable "natural attraction secrets" and what they can do for you. However, I must warn you, these secrets are not for everyone. If you're a guy who's out to hurt or "get back at women," you can stop reading now. **These secrets are only for guys who want to choose their own outcomes with women in a way that makes women feel really, really wonderful.**

Look, I understand you may find these secrets hard to believe. That's why I've put all the details of how you can put these "hidden secrets" to work for you into a 28 page report that is yours **FREE** for the asking. To have this incredible **FREE** report rushed to you at once via first class mail, simply call **1-800-452-8320 ext 211** for a 24 hour free recorded message. Or, you may go to **www.womenapproachme.com** and enter **Report Code 211 RIGHT NOW** to request it and instantly read a copy online. The number of men who will get this report is strictly limited. I don't want every guy out there in on my secrets. So, after this marketing test ends, I'm going to discontinue this report, until I'm sure all the men who've requested it are behaving responsibly. Don't risk being left out. Dial **1-800-452-8320 ext 211** now, or go to **www.womenapproachme.com and enter Report Code 211.** It doesn't cost you a thing.

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Pet of the Year 2006
Runner-up: Cassia Riley

Want to see more naughty pictures of me and my friends? Then come to my new website, SexyCassia.com! You can watch steamy videos where I strip naked and play with some new toys, see many hot new photosets and candid photos and read my personal blog. So, come see me at SexyCassia.com!

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By Kara Wahlgren

Illustration by Chris Hiers

NO MEDS MENU

If you hate popping pills—and who doesn't?—you may be able to fight heart disease, high cholesterol, and more with these tasty foods and treats:

Chocolate. Cocoa contains flavan-3-ols, which help lower blood pressure, according to a new Dutch study. Experts also hail cocoa as one of the most concentrated sources of antioxidants, which can protect against heart disease and cancer. Heart-healthy dark chocolate can also lower overall death risk.

Garlic. A clove a day can decrease your heart-disease risk by as much as 25 percent, and can lower your cholesterol by 17 points. Other heart savers include red wine, almonds, fruits, and veggies.

Red grapefruit. A single daily serving of red grapefruit could help lower lipid levels and blood triglycerides, both of which can lead to heart disease, an Israeli study found. White grapefruit also lowered levels, but not as significantly.

Spinach, blueberries, or strawberries. Most fruits and veggies have cancer-fighting antioxidants, but the deeper the color, the more protection they provide. Taking a vitamin supplement won't have the same effect, so load up on colorful produce.

Cereal. Fiber can decrease your risk of diabetes, studies have found, and cereal fiber has more significant risk reduction than the total dietary fiber found in fruits. Cereals with bran, whole grains, or dried fruit pack the biggest punch.

Open wide! These miracle foods may help you avoid a cocktail of prescription meds.

Sick and Tired

If you have trouble sleeping, it could be affecting your attendance at work. A new French study found that workers with insomnia missed more days than those who got plenty of z's. Insomniacs missed an average of 5.8 days per year, while well-rested workers only missed 2.4 days. The moral: Get the recommended eight hours or more a night, and you can save those sick days for important reasons—like lounging on the beach.

Snore Alone

The next time your girlfriend complains about your snoring, pay attention. A new study found that snoring can actually wreck your relationship. Researchers in Chicago studied ten married couples in which the husband was diagnosed with sleep apnea, a condition related to snoring. All that log sawing can wake you up during the night, not to mention keep your girl awake. Both of you wake up feeling grumpy and sleep deprived, and that's when the fun begins. "The lack of sleep for both partners puts a strain on the marriage and creates a hostile and tense situation," said Rosalind Cartwright, founder of Rush University Medical Center's Sleep Disorders Clinic, in a statement. Some women may choose to sleep separately from their snoring husbands, but that can also negatively impact the marriage.

Wild Ride

There's macho, and there's just plain stupid. An impressive number of guys are a little bit of both, according to a Dublin study. Irish researchers concluded that one in 14 male heart-attack victims drive themselves to the hospital rather than call an ambulance. Four percent of men used public transportation, and 29 percent asked someone for a ride. That left only 60 percent who actually called 911—a much safer choice, since ambulances tend to stock all that fancy medical equipment onboard.

Only one percent of women got behind the wheel, but that doesn't mean they've earned their medical bragging rights. Women took five times longer than men to seek treatment, heading for the ER about 14 hours after symptoms start; men tend to come in under the three-hour mark.

Sticky Situation

No one likes having to chisel their omelet out of the skillet. But after recent reports that Teflon cookware may cause cancer, you might be willing to sacrifice your omelet to save your health. An Environmental Protection Agency advisory committee released a report in February that Teflon might emit a "likely carcinogen." Sounds ominous—but you probably don't need to give up your nonstick glory. In fact, one member of the committee admits that he's still rocking the Teflon with no worries. And another panel member says the chemical in question probably can't be emitted after the manufacturing process, meaning your pots and pans aren't actually spewing carcinogens all over your kitchen. Trace amounts may escape at a very high temperature, so if you're still concerned, turn the flame down a notch or two.

Are your Teflon pots spewing toxic gas into your kitchen? Experts say you might not need to worry so much about your cookware.

Be Nice

Nice guys don't always finish last. According to a University of Chicago study, charitable people are more likely to find true love than their more selfish counterparts. Sixty-seven percent of do-gooders reported "very happy" marriages, compared to only half of those who were rated less likely to help others. The study also found that 75 percent of respondents reported having concern for the less fortunate, which was a five percent jump from a survey in 2002. Then again, that means 25 percent of you are still cold, heartless bastards.

Photographs by (clockwise): Lester V Bergman/Corbis, GSO Images/Getty Images, Royalty Free/Corbis, Jamie Baker/Getty Images.

Photographs by (clockwise): Royalty Free/Corbis, Mike Bailey/Corbis, Rafael Jacinto/Getty Images, Lambert Archive Photo/Getty Images.

The Agony of Ecstasy

If you listen to techno-rave music long enough, you might start to feel like it's eating your brain. No wonder ravers drop so much Ecstasy. But a recent study proves that the music really *can* harm your gray matter if you're on E. Ecstasy has already been linked to brain damage, but a recent study on rats suggests that exposure to loud music may increase the extent of it.

When rats weren't exposed to loud music, the drug's negative effects wore off after a day. But when they were exposed to 95 decibels (the loudest allowed in Italian nightclubs), the effects lasted up to five days. And when you're talking about a drug that makes grown men and women want to wear body glitter and suck on pacifiers, five days is a long, long time.

Your Dentist Was Right

You know all those lectures you got about daily flossing and the dangers of gum disease? Apparently your dentist was on to something. Experts at a recent periodontal disease conference—how fun does *that* sound?—said chronic gum infections can raise your risk for a whole slew of nasty problems, like heart disease and diabetes. (Premature delivery was also on the list, but that doesn't concern you unless you're Arnold Schwarzenegger in *Junior*.) Here's the gross part: About 80 percent of Americans have some form of gum infection, the most common being gingivitis. You can keep your mouth clean and lower your risk of infection by brushing twice a day with a soft-bristle toothbrush, flossing daily, and rinsing with a fluoride mouthwash.

Four out of five Americans have a gum infection, and that can lead to heart troubles down the road.

C Is for Smoking

If you're a smoker, you know your health is basically screwed. The good news is that vitamin C supplements may help prevent lung cancer by keeping your vitamin E levels in check. Here's the deal: Cigarette smoke creates free radicals, which can cause cancer. Vitamin E protects your lung membranes from damage, but in the process, it can become a destructive radical. That's where vitamin C comes in, by helping vitamin E return to its nonradical form. So if you can't quit smoking—which is still the ideal solution—make sure you get enough of both vitamins.

A New Diet Drug?

It seems like weight-loss pills generally have one of two effects: You don't lose any weight, or you drop dead of a heart attack. But if you've packed on extra pounds, don't lose hope. An experimental drug called Rimonabant may help you lose weight *and* lower your cholesterol. Rimonabant acts by blocking one of the pleasure centers in your body—the same one affected by marijuana—and it's on its way to becoming the third FDA-approved drug for weight loss.

In trials, more than 3,000 participants were broken up into three groups. One group got five milligrams of Rimonabant, another got 20 milligrams, and the third received a placebo. Only about half the participants actually finished a year of therapy, but for those who did, Rimonabant had a pretty impressive success rate—48.6 percent of those who took the 20-milligram dose achieved a five percent weight loss or better, compared to 26.1 percent of the low-dose group and 20 percent of the placebo group.

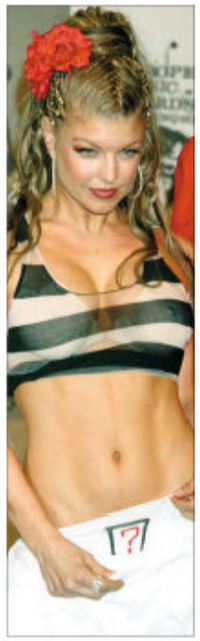
Five percent may not sound drastic, but losing five percent of your body weight can cut your risk for diabetes and heart disease. Now for the bad news: Long-term side effects haven't been determined yet, and the drop-out rate was high. Experts also note that a similar weight loss can be achieved through diet and exercise, which is always a better bet than popping pills.

The Ultimate Sex Mix Tape

Screw candles and bath oil—choosing the right tunes is the most crucial step to getting laid. We asked 100 girls which songs are guaranteed to get you a night of hot sex. Remember, although listening to Queen's "We Are the Champions" might work for you, it could make her think you're a "One Minute Man." By Rebecca Swanner

MUSIC TO MAKE LOVE TO YOUR OLD LADY BY

These are the auditory equivalent of Spanish fly. Just press PLAY and get busy.



1. **"La Tortura,"** by Shakira
2. **"My Humps,"** by Black Eyed Peas
3. **"Party Up,"** by DMX
4. **"We'll Be Burning,"** by Sean Paul
5. **"Last Nite,"** by the Strokes
6. **"Get Me Off,"** by Basement Jaxx
7. **"Lady,"** by Lenny Kravitz
8. **"Last Living Souls,"** by Gorillaz
9. **"Book of the Month,"** by Lovage
10. **"Sexy Boy,"** by Air
11. **"Your Body Is a Wonderland,"** by John Mayer
12. **"Takk ...,"** by Sigur Rós
13. **"Let's Get It On,"** by Marvin Gaye

Photographs by (clockwise from bottom left) Ethan Miller/Corbis, no credit, Timothy A. Clary/Getty Images, Stephane Cardinale/Corbis

PUSH IT

Does your girl prefer headbanging when you're bangin' or Björking while you're porking? Here's what women across the country told us.

"Run to the Hills," Iron Maiden
"There's nothing better than feeling like a warrior during sex."
Lola, 24, Cleveland

"Speechless," Beyoncé
"It's very sexy and *loud*!"
Cookie, 18, Bloomfield, Connecticut

"Disease," Matchbox Twenty
"It's so bloody hot! The beat is perfect for rough banging."
Sonja, 19, Pittsburgh

"My Neck, My Back (Lick It)," Khia
"Because I like people to go down on me."
Katie, 20, Los Angeles

"You Enjoy Myself," Phish
"Trey [Anastasio] turns me on."
Laurie, 27, Port Aransas, Texas

"Kiss," Prince
"This was the first song I fooled around to, and it still holds up today."
Chloe, 29, Fayetteville, Arkansas

"Ms. New Booty," Bubba Sparxxx
"This is just straight-up ghetto love."
Shawndrea, 18, Bloomfield, Connecticut

"Homemade Love," Journey
"It's got a baby-makin' beat, and the pastry [innuendo] really ignites my oven."
Allison, 20, Baltimore

Carmina Burana, Carl Orff
"It would be cool to bang to classical."
Jessica, 19, Butler, New Jersey

Vespertine Live, Björk
"The whole album takes you on a journey.... It starts slow, heats up, and cools back down. Perfect for sex."
Jaclyn, 26, Chicago

"Damaged Goods," Gang of Four
"For athletic, sweaty, lusty, taking-a-bite-out-of-the-shoulder sex."
Layla, 27, New York City

"Nightswimming," R.E.M.
"I think it's sexy. Plus, I enjoy swimming naked."
Sunshine, 27, New York City

NOT GETTING ANY PLAY

Though heavy metal and cheesy R&B à la Boyz II Men ranked at the top of the turnoff charts, here are some other seemingly obvious go-to songs that made the no-go list.

"Runnin' With the Devil," Van Halen
"I personally prefer not to have sex with demons."—Jessica, 20, Reston, Virginia

"Sandstorm," Darude
"You feel pressured to keep up with the fast techno beat."—Naomi, 18, Chicago

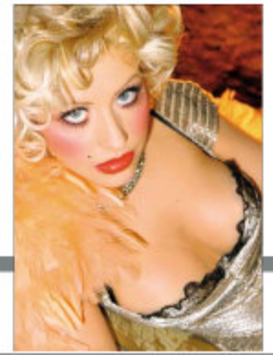
"Crash," Dave Matthews Band
"I lived next to a frat house, and the guy across from me played it every time he had a girl over. On repeat. Jeez, there were a lot of them."—Billie, 27, Athens, Ohio

"Fighter," Christina Aguilera
" 'Your joyride just came down in flames / 'Cause your greed sold me out of shame.' Yikes! Save the anger for when you're not getting laid."—Sanita, 20, Fishkill, New York

"Drop It Like It's Hot," Snoop Dogg
"Because my friend has sex to it."—Mansi, 21, New York City

"The Bad Touch," the Bloodhound Gang
"It's gooty."—Ashley, 18, Boston

Additional reporting by Ronnie Koenig



Photographs by (top to bottom) Corbis, Steve Prezant/Corbis, Arnold Turner/Wireimage.com

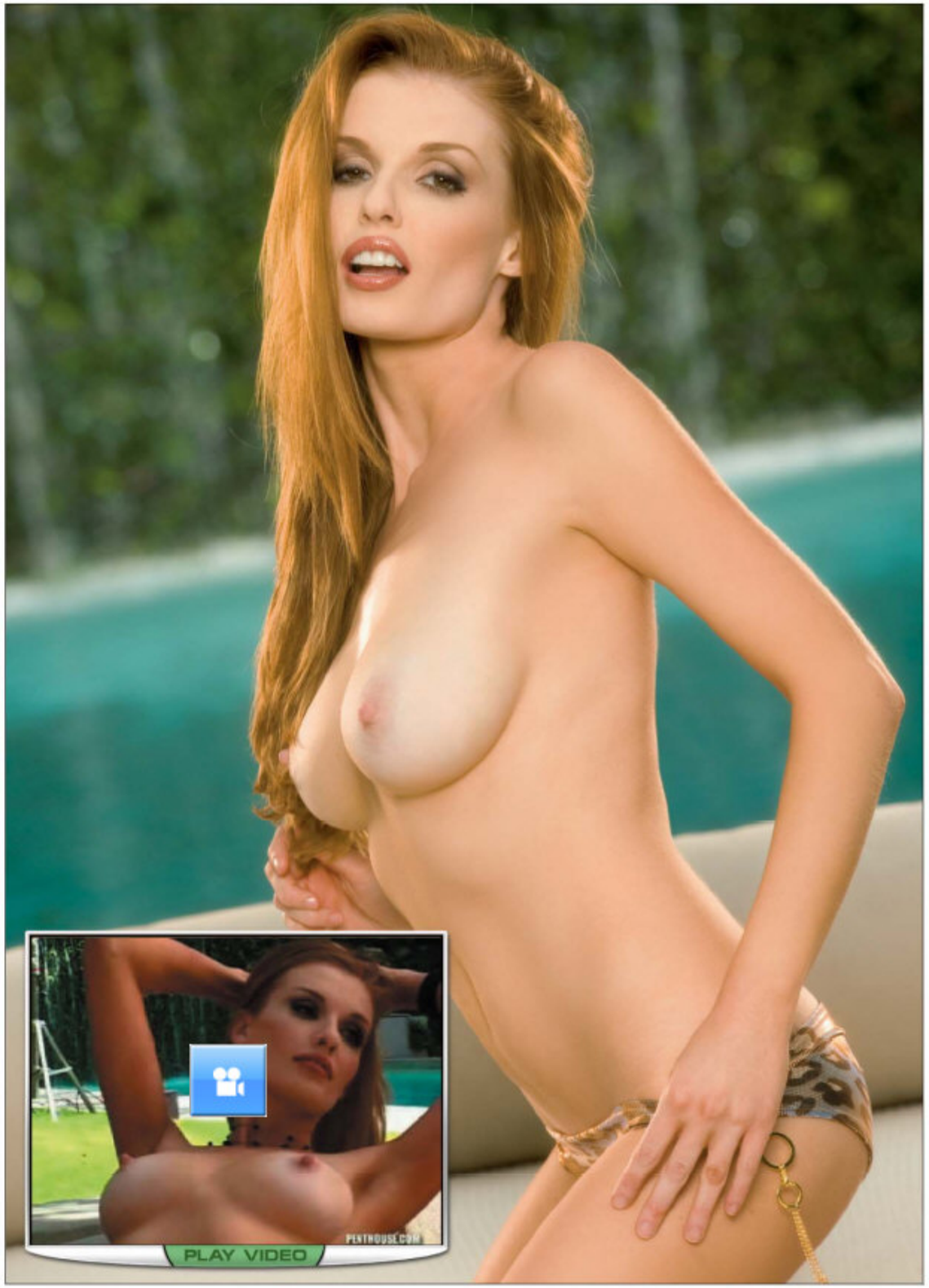
We're looking for the hottest girls in America.
Go to PenthouseModels.com

Red Hot

Fiery vixen Lexie Karlsen loves the simple things in life—good food, amazing wine, and off-the-charts chemistry. Come and indulge all your senses.

Photographs by Ken Marcus

"My ultimate fantasy spot is a boat out on the ocean. Throw in some cocktails and a nice breeze, and that would be enough to get me in the mood." See more of Lexie in the mood at Penthouse .com/lexie.



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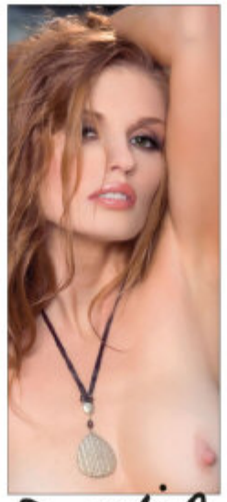

Lexie

VITAL STATS:
27 years old; 34D-23-34

HOMETOWN:
Mesa, Arizona

ASTROLOGICAL SIGN:
Scorpio

FAVORITE FOODS:
Italian, especially gnocchi, and a good wine

FAVORITE SPORTS:
golf and boxing

FAVORITE WORKOUT:
sex is always effective

FAVORITE MUSIC:
Nelly and Lil' Kim

I'M ALWAYS UP FOR:
wine, music, and friends

DREAM VACATION SPOT:
Tahiti

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(1-800-946-7381)
Callers must be 18 or older.
Cost: $0.69/minute

MISS LEXIE KARLSEN/PENTHOUSE PET OF THE MONTH

By Rachel Kramer Bussel

Orgasms Made Easy

"I'm lucky," says my girlfriend Angie. "I can come during intercourse every time." Angie *is* lucky. Climaxing is certainly not that simple for me or some of my other friends, who require a bit more stimulation than the traditional sex act provides. "I almost always have continuous or multiple orgasms," Angie explains. "Once it starts, it usually keeps going. The length of my climax depends on the amount of foreplay we have. If I'm having hot, fast sex, my orgasm is likely to occur quickly. If we're doing it more slowly, my orgasms tend to be more drawn out."

"The only way to make a girl come is for a guy to go down on her," insists my friend Natalie. "It takes me about 20 minutes—is that a long time?" she asks. I just shrug. The truth is, every woman is different, and there are many factors that affect our ability to reach the big O. Do we get enough sleep? Feel connected to our partner? Are we stressed?

The female orgasm is often elusive and highly individualized. There's no magic technique that will work on every girl, and not even one that'll work every time with *your* girl. For my friend Donna, the circumstances have to be just right: no music, no noise, no distractions. "I need to be totally focused," she says. "Talking dirty gets me hot, but if I don't have direct, sustained clitoral stimulation—preferably from oral sex—there's no chance I'm gonna come." Donna had her first orgasm when she was 19, even though she'd had plenty of sex before then. She was worried something was wrong with her, until she discovered her personal formula of continuous clitoral attention. But even with that knowledge, it's not always a piece of cake. "Occasionally I can make myself come in three minutes," Donna tells me. "I know my body and I know what to do—and batteries help a lot! But with a guy, it can take up to half an hour." Unlike women who might freak out about taking too long, she accepts the way her body works.

Donna loves sex with her boyfriend, but she knows intercourse alone rarely does the job. "It's more challenging to have an orgasm during sex, because I focus too much on my partner's pleasure, forgoing my own in the process," she says. "Or we'll shift positions and I'll lose the momentum." And forget about multiples. "I'm not the kind of girl who has ten orgasms a night," Donna confesses. "If I have two orgasms in a single session, that's a *lot*. But I'm okay if I come once before he does."

I'm not an easy-come girl like Angie either. With a vibrator, it can take me up to half an hour. With a partner, sometimes it happens, sometimes it doesn't—and I don't always know why. But most women feel uncertain about their orgasmic abilities at one point or another. Even Angie says, "I always thought there was something wrong with me because I couldn't orgasm from oral sex. I did a lot of faking." Since so many women get off on getting licked, she thought she had to—until she decided to be happy with what works for her. "Missionary results in the most amazing orgasms for me," Angie says.

Despite my title, orgasms aren't always easy. There's no magic formula here because women are all different. But the good news is, you can *always* have fun trying.

"I need to be totally focused.... Talking dirty gets me hot, but if I don't have direct, sustained clitoral stimulation—preferably from oral sex—there's no chance I'm gonna come."

Illustration by Jared Woolley

Handling the Hottest Handlebars

By Bill Heald

MuscleBike

A modern take on the classic motorcycle, Suzuki's Boulevard M109R cruiser is a lavishly sculpted, neo-retro chrome gorilla loaded with power, style, and attitude.

Here's a bit of irony: Fast motorcycles often take a long time to reach your local showroom. But such machines, like Suzuki's wild new M109R cruiser, are usually worth the wait. The hold-up on this thunderous ride has been curious, especially considering that all the big players have been cobbling performance cruisers for years. And while Suzuki has a sizable assortment of excellent "regular" cruisers, the company was on the sidelines when it came to a true ground-pounding V-twin muscle bike. Thankfully, the marque chose 2006 to enter the game in a big way.

Suzuki has injected the M109R, considered the flagship of its Boulevard cruiser line, with a liberal dose of the racing technology that has made the manufacturer's sport bikes so successful in the past.

The new improvements begin with a massive 1,783-cc (109 cubic-inch) V-twin engine that splays the cylinders at 54 degrees, so the fuel-injection system can be packaged for a straight shot from the airbox to the injectors. Four-valve heads, two spark plugs per cylinder, and an advanced engine-management system all combine to summon 127 horsepower and 118 foot-pounds of torque from this liquid-cooled mill. This, plus a five-speed transmission and shaft drive, help get the rumble to the road.

The M uses a steel perimeter frame that is suspended by beefy, 46-mm inverted front forks and a single-shock rear linkage out back. Brakes are a serious kit, with radially mounted front calipers—just like those on Suzuki's GSX-R sport bikes—and 310-mm dual discs. A single 275-mm disc puts the *whoa* on a meaty, 240-series rear tire. All these sporting components are mounted on a long, low chassis with a 67.5-inch wheelbase and a very laid-back riding position. The bars are longhorn-wide and the seat is positioned near the asphalt at 27.6 inches, but the pipes on the right side force you to kick your leg out fairly far at stops—an annoyance for those with short inseams. On top of the bars we find a trick neo-retro tachometer that's polished, modern, cool, *and* easy to read when you're blasting down the blacktop at ultra-happy speeds.

Velocity comes quick, too. Get those massive pistons excited and the M becomes a bullet train, then tries to yank the bars out of your hands with the kind of smooth, muscular torque you associate with classic V-8 autos. Handling from the rigid chassis is stable and predictable, but you run out of cornering clearance really quickly in the twisties. Dragging your heels is all part of the fun, though, and rolling on the power while coming out of a turn is a glorious experience. The M109R may be late to the party, but a dance with this chrome gorilla will put a serious spring in your riding boots. SuzukiCycles.com

A laid-back ride imbued with sport-bike technology, the M is built from the ground up to perform with the smooth, refined savagery that many cruisers aspire to but few achieve.

SPECIFICATIONS

Engine type:	Four stroke, liquid cooled, two cylinder, DOHC four valve
Bore x stroke:	112 mm x 90.5 mm
Displacement:	1,783 cc
Fuel system:	Fuel injection, 56 mm
Ignition:	Electronic ignition (full transistorized)
Transmission:	Five speed, constant mesh
Front suspension:	Inverted, telescopic, coil spring, oil damped
Rear suspension:	Link type, coil spring, oil damped, spring preload seven-way adjustable
Front brakes:	Radial mount, opposed four-piston calipers, 310-mm dual discs
Rear brake:	Two-piston caliper, 275-mm disc
Front tire:	130/70R18M/C 63V
Rear tire:	240/40R18M/C 79V
Fuel tank:	19 liter (5.1 gallon)
Wheelbase:	1,715 mm (67.5 inches)
Seat height:	700 mm (27.6 inches)
Dry weight:	695 pounds
MSRP:	$12,399

By Jim McCraw

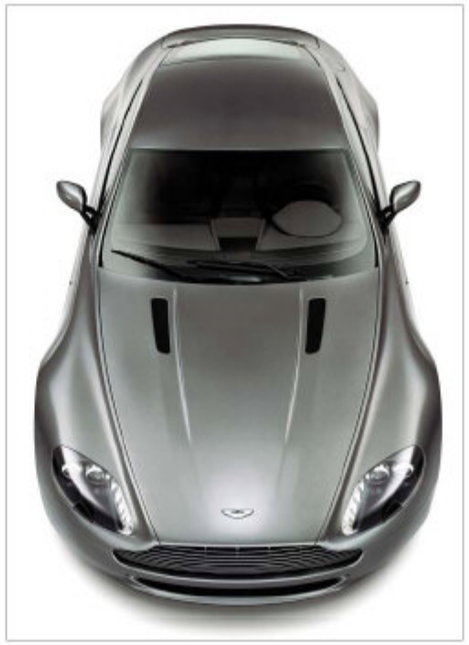
Advantage, Aston Martin

The V8 Vantage may be the least expensive model in the Aston Martin lineup, but it still has all the company's famous hand-built attributes. Buyers choose from 22 options that extend beyond exterior color to include details like stitching color in the car's dreamy leather bucket seats.

The 380-horsepower, 302-foot-pound V-8 engine is a 4.3-liter, all-aluminum alloy. Each four-cam, 32-valve dry-sump engine is hand-built by one man. The V8 Vantage comes standard with a six-speed manual transmission or an optional six-speed ZF manual automatic.

Aston Martin's luscious coupe has its front, mid-mounted engine connected by a driveshaft to a six-speed manual Graziano transmission at the rear of the car, providing a 49:51 front/rear weight distribution and wonderfully neutral handling.

The leather is soft and supple, and the seats embrace the passengers. There's plenty of adjustment



SPECIFICATIONS

Body style:	Two-seat coupe
Engine:	4.3-liter V-8, DOHC 32-valve electronic fuel injection
Power:	380 horsepower
Torque:	500 foot-pounds
Transmission:	Six-speed manual transaxle
Front suspension:	Independent, double A-arms
Rear suspension:	Independent, double A-arms
Overall length:	172.5 inches
Overall width:	73.5 inches
Overall height:	49.4 inches
Wheelbase:	102.4 inches
Tires:	Bridgestone Potenza 235/45 ZR18 front 275/40 ZR18 rear radials
Curb weight:	3,460 pounds
Performance	
0-60 mph:	4.8 seconds
Top speed:	175 mph
Drag number:	0.34 Cd
Base price:	$110,000

from the inboard-mounted, power seat switches on the console, and a tilt-and-telescope steering column.

Italian Brembo front brakes are ventilated, 14-inch grooved steel discs (13 inches in the rear). The V8 Vantage uses sticky Bridgestone Potenza 235/45 ZR18 up front, and the rear is decked out with 275/40 ZR18 tires on ten-spoke alloy wheels.

Among the things we like best about the V8 Vantage are its instant reactions to steering inputs, its seriously direct and responsive chassis, and the taut but luxurious ride that makes it a great grand touring car.

The 3,460-pound coupe tops out at 175 miles per hour, with a zero-to-60-mph time of only 4.8 seconds. It's so responsive and quick that you can drive it like you just stole it. Look out, Porscheü AstonMartin.com

What a stunner! This sports car apologizes to no one for its great looks, screaming V-8 engine, amazingly comfy interior, or the way it attacks a winding road. For the princely sum of $110,000, you get a custom-built, handmade car with only the finest of options.

All That JaZZ

Maybe it's that less-than-
glowing endorsement that
they got in *High Fidelity*,
but music geeks have gotten
a bad rap in the bedroom.
That's unjust. After all, deejays
are professional hedonists
who can dictate the bodily
response of crowds,
music critics can spot fakers a
mile away, and, as for record-
store employees, we think people
who spend hours searching
file servers for obscure Runaways
B-sides might hold the key
to the perfect sexual soundtrack.
—Michael Martin, Nerve.com

Photographs by Getty Images. Opposite page, left: Getty Images; right: Corbis

Sex advice from ...

DEEJAYS

LEIGH, 21

What's the best way to approach someone on the dance floor?
None! Make them approach you! Give eyes from across the room.... If you don't have the courage to go grab someone and start dancing, just keep drinking until you do.

Do I, in fact, need to lick it before we kick it?
Ooh! A little lick's always a nice starter, but no, it's not necessary. If you're going to do that to me, you have to follow through and take care of me. Guys who'll go down a bit and then take off or fall asleep—it makes me want to fucking cut them.

What's a no-fail cunnilingus technique?
You've got to get your fingers in there. If you're using your mouth and hands simultaneously, that's a sure shot.

What is not an appropriate sound or statement to make at the moment of orgasm?
Anything that's cliché. If someone ever said something like "Who's your daddy?", I'd pretty much jump out of bed, get dressed, and leave. I don't like when people say, "I'm coming." It sounds like bad porn. It's nice when someone says your name or if they compliment you. It's nice to hear "You're so beautiful" or "You're amazing."

SARAH, 24

What's the best way to approach someone on the dance floor?
Saunter over to them while making eye contact. But make sure your eyes are half closed and sexy.... Then when you get near them, just start the dancin'. No words need to be spoken. If you're nervous, it won't work. Guys who approach me halfheartedly always end up getting shot down.

What's the best way to get the deejay to come home with you?
Offer to help carry their record bags home. Duh.

Biggest mistake women make in bed?
Not talking dirty to her partner. I used to tell the guy I was dating panty-fantasy stories while we were having sex. He loved it.

Panty-fantasy stories?
Yeah: "Next time you see me, I want you to bend me over and rip off my panties and take me from behind."

Biggest mistake men make in bed?
Moaning too much. Not taking control. There's nothing less sexy than a guy who just lays there. Oh, and insisting on more dirty talk. If I'm done with the dirty talk, don't ask for more.

RECORD-STORE CLERKS

MIKEY, 27

Best albums for a night of sex?
Portishead's *Dummy*. *Black Celebration* by Depeche Mode. Anything by Barry White, of course.

What's the most diplomatic way to show your partner how to improve their oral sex technique?
Keep it in the moment. Don't manually show them what to do; in my experience, that's a bad way to go. In a roundabout way, kind of say, "Oh, you know what would really feel good?" Never say, "You are doing that all wrong," "Stop it," or "I want to go to sleep." Emphasize only the positives.

What's the key to truly great sex?
Spontaneity.... When you least expect it to happen.... There should be lots of that.

No-fail cunnilingus technique?
Writing the letters of the alphabet with the tip of the tongue.

What if the girl is dyslexic?
Good one. Okay, well, I guess I'd say keep it varied. Variety!

RYAN, 25

Best albums for sex?
DJ Shadow's *Endtroducing* ... is a good record. Marvin Gaye's *Let's Get It On*.

Best way to get her to try anal sex?
Just ask her if she's ever tried it.... It doesn't

hurt to ask. That's the part that definitely *won't* hurt.

No-fail cunnilingus technique?
Watch pornos, man. They know how to do it. I guess the thing to remember is, every girl is different.

If a girl is a massive fan of Sting's solo work, should you sleep with her?
Fuck, no! Sting is the Antichrist. Same goes for Phil Collins. She could get away with, like, the first Police record—maybe. I'd have more respect for her if she were really into Bell Biv DeVoe. Actually, that's my third record! *Poison* by Bell Biv DeVoe. Now *that's* a sexual album. The last few tracks on that record? Raunchy. Same with R. Kelly. He rocks innuendo like no other. A lot of respect for him, man.

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MUSIC CRITICS

JULIANNE, 29

What is the quickest way to turn on a music critic?
Play side C of LL Cool J's *Greatest Hits* (the slow jams), and don't go reciting liner-note minutiae when you're supposed to be kissing me.

My boyfriend really wants me to get kinky and surprise him with new stuff in bed. What do you suggest?
I would test the waters with a little light bondage, blindfolds, and Polaroids.... You gotta ease into it before you start wrapping twine around his scrotum and wearing a plushy costume, you know?

Describe a sexual position you highly recommend that you have created.
This one I call the "Rhythm Nation 2005," inspired by my choreography idols Janet Jackson and Paula Abdul: Do "the snake" onto your man and then, like Mos Def said, "just bounce."

How can I get off quicker? Help!
Finger in ass, honey. Finger. In. Ass.

KURT AKA DJ EL TORO, 37

How can I satisfy my sexual curiosity about scat without jeopardizing my relationship?
I'd say start by trying to open up the discussion and playing to activities somewhere between vanilla in-and-out and scat on the extremity scale—golden showers seem to be much less offensive to a lot of people—and see how it progresses from there.

What is the most important sexual trick of the trade that you know?
Never be afraid to jam two fingers up someone's ass. If they don't like it—or they want something bigger up there—they'll let you know. Tap into people's fantasies and then integrate what you're getting back from them. Being able to keep your mouth shut after the fact is pretty key, too.

JESSICA, 29

I'm running out of effective pickup lines. I need one that'll get the ladies in one shot. Ideas?
I think unless you're trolling on-campus Irish bars on ladies' night after finals, you are not likely to find a girl who'll cut as a result of a single, simple phrase. I would say go for honesty—a casual but not creepy expression along the lines of "I'd really like to fuck you" can go a long way. If that does not work, laugh at her jokes and compliment her hair a lot.

NO REGRETS

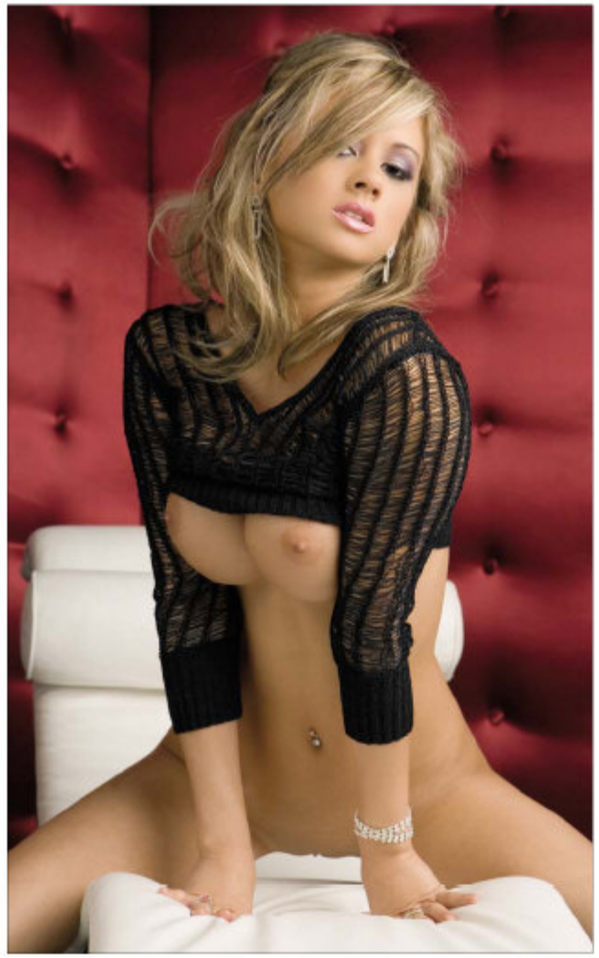
Twenty-year-old 34D-25-34 Codi Milo is studying to become a doctor. But this month, our California wild child just wants to skip class to take road trips and lie on the beach. Meet the ideal woman, then check out more of her photos at Penthouse.com/codi.

Photographs by Brett Bereny

We're looking for the hottest girls in America.
Go to PenthouseModels.com

"I have a few tattoos and piercings,"
the sultry blonde admits with an unapologetic smile and a sexy
laugh. "Sometimes I act on impulse.
But do I regret anything? Not at all. I just think, *why not?*"

"I like big men with black spiky hair—their
size makes me feel vulnerable and protected at the same time.
Especially when we watch horror movies.
I love that I can just cuddle up and not be scared."



"When I'm not studying or going to class, I take road trips, eat junk food all day, and play with my puppy, Dolce. It's hard to find free time during the school year, so I fully indulge during vacation."

From the pits of Warped Tour and Ozzfest

to the fields

of Lollapalooza and Bonnaroo,

you're sure to find some

of your favorite bands playing in your

area this summer.

DOWN AND DIRTY

Lollapalooza is back. And so is Perry Farrell, the mercurial frontman who was both the brains behind the original touring festival and, with Jane's Addiction, a crucial headliner at the first Lollapalooza in 1991. This year he has returned to the fold as one of the festival's primary organizers and spokesmen.

Instead of mounting the type of massive, coast-to-coast tour that put Lollapalooza on the map as a cultural institution, Farrell and company are following the European summer concert model by holding a single, multiday festival in Chicago. They're also continuing to work with the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival that Madonna headlined this year.

By Matt Ashare

"Let me just say," Farrell says from his home in Venice Beach, California, "that from a career point of view, musicians really have to be open to these festivals. There's just not a lot of money in selling music itself. But there are still a lot of people who are interested in going out to these festivals to see artists perform. For an artist like Madonna, the best thing she can do is get out there and put herself in front of the people at a festival like Coachella."

Legend has it that the original Lollapalooza was Farrell's American answer to the U.K.'s Reading Festival. But the way he tells it now, fate also had a role in the festival's genesis. "I was supposed to play the Reading Festival with Jane's Addiction," he says. "I never made it because I was too wasted. When we got home, I told [Lollapalooza cocreator] Mark Geiger that I wanted to put together Jane's Addiction's last tour. We were thinking about who we wanted for an opener, so I gave him a long list. He said I could have whatever I wanted. I said, 'I want an art gallery and I want the world.' I wanted that final Jane's Addiction tour to be a big party, and it turned into Lollapalooza."

Thus, Farrell and Geiger inadvertently created the model for the American festival tour. Before the nineties ended, neo-hippies had H.O.R.D.E., punk rockers had Warped Tour, metalheads had Ozzfest, and Lilith Fair provided female artists with their own home away from home. Frustrated by the changing economics of the concert industry and its impact on Lollapalooza, Farrell eventually moved on to bigger challenges, including ENIT, a failed electronica festival.

In retrospect, ENIT was another piece of the puzzle that helped create the environment where huge rock festivals like Coachella, Lollapalooza, and Bonnaroo now thrive. And Farrell's always been in the middle of it all. "Back in the day,

Lollapalooza was a very different kind of festival, but that's because the country, the world, and entertainment were very different in 1991," he says. "Back in those days, you had individual promoters in each city. But with companies like Clear Channel coming in and buying up all the promoters, you now have a very different situation. You can't shop around anymore. You're driven to the Clear Channel venues, and they set the price. They just look at your headliner, and maybe the second and third bands, and decide what to pay you. They don't care about whether you're going to have a fashion show or an art gallery. They don't want to pay for any of that. So really, it might as well just be one of those radio shows. That's why we had to go away for a while and rethink the whole idea of Lollapalooza."

Fittingly, it was the L.A. promoter Farrell used for the original Lollapalooza—Goldenvoice—who helped lay the groundwork for its rebirth, with a little festival called Coachella in the desert outside Palm Springs. "When we did Jane's Addiction shows and then Lollapalooza, I got to be friends with the guys at Goldenvoice, who were just little punk-rock promoters at the time," Farrell says. "I insisted on using them for Lollapalooza in L.A., even though it wasn't a very politic thing to do. But it showed everyone what they were capable of. And now they've got Madonna coming to play Coachella."

In his trailblazing manner, Farrell's working out the details for MindField, an interactive cell-phone game that he hopes will make this year's Lollapalooza different from your average festival concert. "The entire venue becomes the MindField and people can communicate with one another and meet up at different places," Farrell says.

Farrell has found there is always something new to tackle: "I remember when we introduced the idea of the second stage. We had to do it in a lot of amphitheater venues, so they'd put the second stage in the parking lot, and that was just terrible. We now have a chance to build one stage in one place, just the way we want it, but we have to build it from the ground up. That means dealing with everything, from stages to fences to toilets. It's a whole different challenge."

LOLLAPALOOZA STATS

When: August 4–6
Where: Chicago's Grant Park
Must-sees: Red Hot Chili Peppers, Kanye West, Matisyahu, the Raconteurs, the Shins, Ryan Adams, Sleater-Kinney, Panic! at the Disco, She Wants Revenge, the Editors, Dresden Dolls, Deadboy & the Elephantmen, Lady Sovereign, Mates of State, Lyrics Born

VIVA LA REVOLUCIÓN

From playing frat parties to headlining Madison Square Garden, the jam band O.A.R. has made touring a priority, even if it's not what makes their label happy.

You can blame this penchant for touring on the Grateful Dead, who proved that a band could be incredibly successful even without massive airplay or platinum records. Every year the jam-band pioneers hit the road, drawing thousands of fans who prized musicianship and community over marketing.

Fast-forward 30 years, when the members of the jam band O.A.R. (Of a Revolution), like the Dead, also stick to what they know best: live performance.

In the eight years since they formed at Ohio State University, where their rock/reggae mix made them a frat-party favorite, O.A.R. has used the Internet to build a solid fan base. In 2001, they released *Risen* on their own Everfine imprint. It debuted at No. 11 on *Billboard*'s Internet sales chart, which more or less guaranteed the band a major-label deal. But as they gear up to tour in support of the slickly produced Lava/Atlantic album *Stories of a Stranger*, a tour that'll end with a three-day festival at the Gorge Amphitheatre in George, Washington, they have few illusions about their place in the industry.

"Major labels just don't have the time, the resources, or the money to develop career artists," says saxophonist Jerry DePizzo. "I'm not pointing any fingers because I know there are people at Atlantic Records who work their asses off, but it's a nervous time in the industry: They want to know who's going to be the next big arena band, like U2 or the Rolling Stones.

"Then you've got a band like us and, well, we sell a decent number of records, but we're not going platinum anytime soon. We make our money on the road. Regardless of whether we sell a lot of albums, this band grows every day. Our MySpace hits

grow. Our concert sales grow. And our audience grows."

Those may not be the numbers Atlantic is looking at, but that doesn't mean O.A.R. will be cutting their schedule of 200-plus gigs a year anytime soon. "We cut our teeth on the road," says DePizzo. "That's our bread and butter. We've played thousands of shows, but we've only made a handful of studio albums. I think we still have a lot of work to do in terms of finding ourselves in the studio."

To broaden their range on *Stories of a Stranger*, O.A.R. met the label halfway and worked with proven producers like Glen Ballard. The first single, "Love and Memories," was cowritten with Ballard. "It's something we did to improve ourselves as songwriters," says DePizzo. "When you have an outside ear like Ballard come in, he can offer an opinion about a bridge or a chorus that you might miss because you're just too close to the song. It's true that it can be hard to keep the suits at the label happy. But on our side, everything looks good because the band is growing and we're making an impact on people."

WORDSMITH

Even with the growing buzz around them, the Editors are keeping their cool, determined not to let their egos get in the way.

Previous spread: Photographs by (left to right): Matt Carmichael/Getty Images, Steve Marcus/Corbis. Left page (top to bottom): Gordie Ball, Matt Carmichael/Getty Images. Right page, top: AP

Editors frontman Tom Smith is in a London tube station on his way to visit his girlfriend. It will be the last time they see each other for several months. Tomorrow, his Birmingham-based band will head to the U.S., where they're hoping to duplicate the success they've had in Britain this past year. They've played big festivals like Glastonbury and seen their debut album, *The Back Room*, collect critical kudos while selling 300,000 copies. But even though the Editors' vaguely dark, neo–new wave sound is in step with current trends, they haven't broken the top of the charts—which is just fine with Smith.

"I can certainly see why people would be cynical about another British band coming across the pond with all kinds of press hype," he says. "But we've never really thought of ourselves as being part of those bands anyway. I mean, I think the Arctic Monkeys are great. But other than having two eyes, a nose, a face, and two legs, I don't think we have very much in common with them. I think we appeal to different audiences."

Smith will have a chance to test that theory when the Editors tour with Stellastarr* and perform at Lollapalooza and Coachella. If all goes well, they might be seeing more of the spotlight than they have in the past. "We've always been in the shadows," Smith says. "When we came out with our first single, Kaiser Chiefs and Bloc Party were getting all the press—we were kind of just a side note. Then Hard-Fi came along. Now Arctic Monkeys are getting all the attention, but I think it suits us."

In contrast to Smith's laid-back attitude, *The Back Room* is filled with big guitars and bold vocals that recall the grandeur of Echo & the Bunnymen. And after a year spent conquering Britain, it's almost hard to imagine the band heading back to club-land. "It is strange to be going to the U.S. and sort of stepping back a year to when people didn't know who we were," says Smith, "but those smaller club sets can be a lot of fun and can have a lot of intensity. So we'll continue to work on new material in the bus and off the stage. We are a better band now. Maybe the U.S. is getting a better Editors than the U.K. got last year."

THE ROAD TO HELL

Disturbed rose from playing early mornings on Ozzfest's second stage to securing a spot on the main stage. On the eve of the fest's 11th year, frontman David Draiman takes us behind the scenes of the U.S.'s biggest metal tour.

Next to Ozzy himself, the Chicago foursome Disturbed might be the band that owes the most career longevity to Ozzfest. This summer will mark the fourth time the group has played the metal utopia since the release of their debut album, *The Sickness*, six years ago. And with each successive Ozzfest, Disturbed has climbed a couple of rungs up the heavy-metal ladder, from debuting as the opening band on the second stage back in 2000 to being named one of the headliners on this summer's main stage. "It is grueling," admits Draiman in a soft voice that belies the raw-throated intensity of his onstage delivery. "But you don't really think about it when you're out there.

"Bands don't talk about it, but it's also competitive," Draiman continues. "And that makes you a better band. It's like boot camp for heavy metal bands: You're having to measure up to everyone else kicking the crowd's asses all day. Each band that goes on next is doing a better and better job. So when it comes to your turn, it's like, 'Holy shit, we gotta outdo all this. We have to deserve this spot.' "

Disturbed earned their top billing on the Ozzfest food chain the old-fashioned way: They worked for it. "On the first Ozzfest we played," Draiman recalls, "we started out the tour as the first band to play, at 10:15 in the morning. But by the end of the tour, we had secured a permanent position in the main support slot on the side stage. It was so exciting because it was us finally arriving."

Disturbed's real arrival as a force of Ozzfest came in 2001, when the tour kicked off in their hometown and the band headlined the second stage. The results were as electrifying as they were disconcerting. "We could have had the second spot on the main stage," Draiman explains. "But we thought it would be better to headline the second stage. We ended up with 75,000 people jammed into an area that could only accommodate 10,000. There were people being pulled out on stretchers. Sharon Osbourne was watching from the top of the pavilion and she freaked out. She moved us to the main stage the next day. We really just preferred playing the second stage because there aren't any seats there, so it's bodies on top of bodies in the crowd."

By 2003, Disturbed no longer had to prove themselves, and they took the next two years off from the tour. But this year, Draiman and his bandmates felt the pull of Ozzfest again. "It's about getting this rare chance to tour with all these other great bands," he says. "And for bands in our genre, it's become this thing you can always count on. You know there will be an Ozzfest come summer, and there will be a lot of familiar faces there. And you also know that you'll come away as a much better band."

Ozzfest STATS
When: July 1–August 13
Who's Playing? System of a Down, Ozzy Osbourne, Disturbed, Lacuna Coil, Hatebreed, Black Label Society, Atreyu, Bleeding Through, Norma Jean, Unearth, and more

Photographs by (clockwise from top): Joe Giron/Corbis, George Chin/Wireimage.com, Tim Mosenfelder/Getty Images. Opposite page, from left: Sebastian Mylarski/Getty Images, Jim Dyson/Getty Images

EASY RIDER

Critic favorite Devendra Banhart isn't easily classified. But it's simple to see that he believes, even when playing the biggest summer festivals, it's important to kick back and enjoy.

Devendra Banhart is driving, which is what people in L.A. do. As he cruises down Wilshire Boulevard on his way to the organic supermarket mecca Whole Foods, he claims he hasn't really woken up yet. "I'm not totally paying attention to driving or to talking to you," he says with a hint of mischief. "Should I make a left turn here?"

Banhart has been making a lot of quick turns lately. The eclectic singer-songwriter has quietly developed into one of the more critically acclaimed young artists around, even if no one's been able to nail down his style. As he prepares for his biggest summer yet, when he'll hit Coachella, Bonnaroo, and the U.K.'s All Tomorrow's Parties, he's proven that he can play all those festivals without being defined by any of them. But right now, he's just happy to have found a parking space. "I've played so many festivals, especially in Europe, that my attitude is to have as much fun as I possibly can," says Banhart. "We want everyone to turn into a peacock. We want to connect everyone in a web of love.

"At these festivals, I don't even feel like a musician," he says with a playful laugh. "I feel like I'm just one of the audience members who got half an hour up onstage. And having fun is the whole point.

"The truth is," he adds, in a more serious tone, "we play early in the day. So for us, it's about playing as fast as we can so we can go knock around, hang out with everyone, and have some fun."

Fun is high on Banhart's list of priorities. His irreverence is also a way of deflecting some of the more serious attention he's gotten from the music establishment—something he's not yet comfortable with. "When I'm headlining my own show," he says, "there is more of a responsibility to completely inhabit the music and to be present in the making of the music. That's a different responsibility, and I take that very seriously. But playing a festival ... it's a yacht breeze. A Hall & Oates, Doobie Brothers, groovin', breezin', smooth-times vibe that we're riding with everyone. Then we just jump offstage and join the rest of the audience."

But Banhart can't count on being just another anonymous face in the crowd. "When you think of music as a career,

then I'm lost," he says. "I feel it's like playing the lottery. But when you think of music as stages in your life, then I can relate to it. That's tangible.

"Having a career, or engineering a career, is not something I've ever planned," he says as he approaches the register at Whole Foods. "I'll always have a job waiting for me here when all of this goes to shit."

GOT SCHWAG?
Some artists go way beyond hawking T-shirts and CDs at their merchandise booths. Here are some of our favorite creative items:

NOFX
Towels **$13**

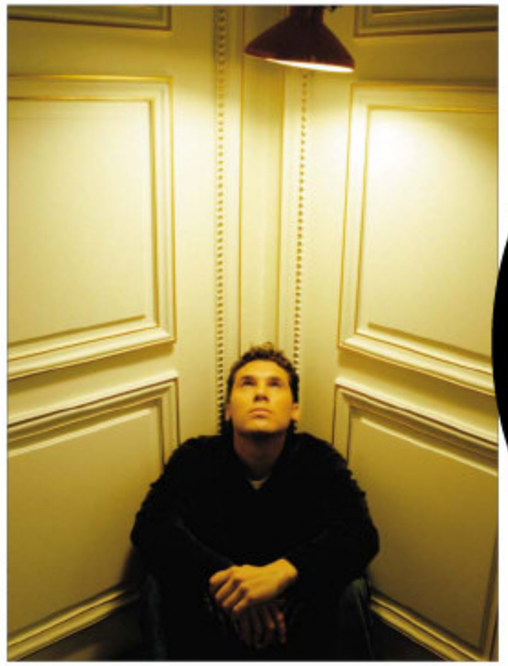
Calexico
Mexican calendars **$5**

Valient Thorr
Locks of the frontman's hair **$2** for head hair, **$3** for beard

Sufjan Stevens
Limited-edition silk-screened posters **$20**

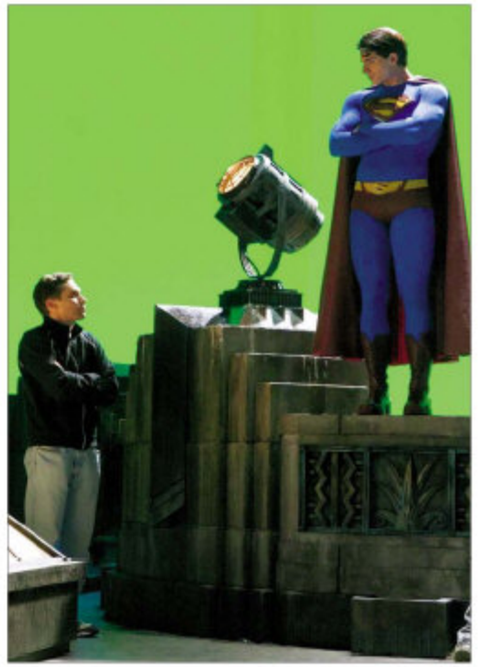
Bouncing Souls
Silver necklace **$10**

INTERVIEW BY HARRY KNOWLES



Photograph by Philippe Bastien/Corbis

SUPES ON



Bryan Singer knows his way around superheroes. After all, this is the man who single-handedly built the *X-Men* franchise. But this year he decided to leave the mutants to their own devices in order to take on the biggest hero the world has ever known. Comic nerds, critics, studio execs, and just about everyone else can hardly wait for June 30. Why? *Superman Returns.*

This summer marks the stunning return of the last son of Krypton, Kal-El. You may know him by his earth name: Superman. For many of us, the only guy who could fill those blue tights was the late Christopher Reeve. The only Lois Lane was Margot Kidder, and nobody could replace Gene Hackman as Lex Luthor. But Bryan Singer, the director behind *The Usual Suspects* and the first two *X-Men* films, took on the challenge. To reinvigorate the most beloved character in comics history is a gamble, but it's one that Warner Bros. is putting a few hundred million dollars behind. Singer, unlike his hero, was sick, tired, and exasperated when I spoke with him. He can almost see the light at the end of a project that has plagued the studio for nearly 20 years. Nobody doubts that he's made a good movie—but is it super?

What was it about Richard Donner's *Superman* that made you want to add to, instead of remake, his version?

I've always viewed it as a classic. There are always movies that are worth remaking because they didn't quite achieve—even in their day—a level of sophistication and quality that matched the story they were telling. In the case of *Superman*, not only did I feel it had that quality, but in terms of storytelling and character, it maintained it over the decades. I felt that it was inspiring enough to make a quasi-sequel, but not a remake.

You and I both saw *Superman* around the age of 13. Its tagline was, "You'll believe a man can fly." But since that time, flying effects have become commonplace. How are you going to wow us?

Sony had some shots come back—they were still in development—but you would be shocked that you're seeing a CG person. I was like, "Whoa!" They can reproduce the pores on his tongue, the fibrous hairs on his ears … where it's necessary. Then there [were times] when it was just wirework and it blended in, in such a way that it was just the actor selling it. And just the fact that you're seeing [Superman] fly again …

When did you first look at Brandon Routh and say, "It's Superman!"

It came during the first costume test, when Brandon just walked on set and stood there. He indelibly imprinted himself upon our minds.

Although there was this one time when Jack Larson [who played Jimmy Olsen in the 1950s *Adventures of Superman*] was standing next to me on the roof of the *Daily Planet* in Australia. He didn't participate in the Donner era, so it had been a long time since he'd come face to face with Superman. He came up to my shoulder and said, "There he is!" I didn't know what he was talking about, and then I saw Brandon, and I was like, "Yeah, there he is."

Tell me how you found Routh, and how he's matured as an actor under your direction.

My first meeting with Brandon was at the Coffee Bean on Sunset [Boulevard]. He was like, "Hey, you wanna go eat outside? There's a table out there," and he stood up … and up and up and up. When you meet with an actor, you're looking for things to rule them out, like "that doesn't photograph" or "that's not going to be the right personality." But every minute we talked, it was apparent that this was a unique individual. What he's brought to the role is a sense of vulnerability that very much serves this Superman story.

"I felt that to tell a Superman story, the focus had to be around the relationship," says Singer. (Above) The Man of Steel cops a feel.

The world has moved on, Lois Lane has a fiancé and a child, and Brandon approached it from a more vulnerable place than perhaps George Reeves or Christopher Reeve. I tried to give him the trust, freedom, and guidance that I offer to every actor—but at the same [time], adapt to Brandon's strengths and allow them to flourish in the character.

I had a friend drop by during one of the costume tests and he felt like he had just met Superman. [Routh] is Clark Kent. That's just his nature.

I heard from one person who saw the film in its roughest state that it was "*Casablanca* in a cape," and that it's less of an action epic than it is about the relationships among Clark Kent, Lois Lane, and Superman. What made you want to go in that direction with the story?

I felt that to tell a Superman story, the focus had to be around that relationship. If you look at the entire *Superman* canon, you'll find that since the very beginning, it's his relationship with Lois Lane [that] has been at the focus of every single story—except his younger years. There was something wonderful about watching their relationship from the position of Clark Kent—who stands almost invisibly next to Lois Lane and watches from his vantage point.

Behind every great man is a great woman, and in the case of Superman, Lois Lane is an emotional anchor for his character. I guarantee there will be no shortage of action, but beneath all that—for lack of a better expression—this will be the closest thing to a chick flick that I've ever directed.

I'd like to thank you for casting Kate Bosworth, who is the sexiest Lois Lane since the Fleischer animated *Superman* cartoons.

She comes off like a real forties movie star—like she's Katharine Hepburn. It's really amazing … and she's *young*! The moment she walked on that set, you're like, "This is a mother, and she isn't as happy as the rest of the world is about Superman's return." Yet when you take her out to dinner, she's like a kid again!

After seeing her in *Wonderland*, with Val Kilmer as John Holmes, you could see that she wanted to be an actress, and not one of those teen twitters.

She was nervous about this, because she didn't really expect a role that would afford her instantaneous visibility on such a wide level, so quickly and so early in her life. It took a lot of trust in me for her to take this leap.

But it was kinda fun because sometimes I'd throw pieces of direction at her during the process, and she was like, "Keep them coming." Kevin Spacey had told me it'd be that way, because he directed her in *Beyond the Sea*.

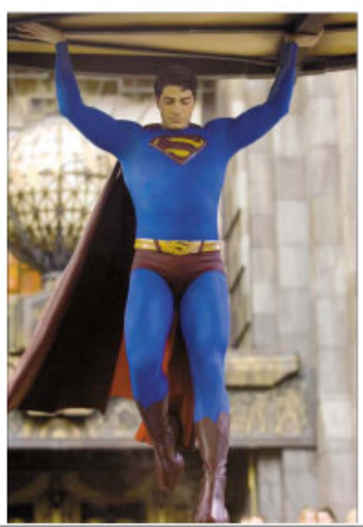
Some people say the measure of a hero is often determined by the size or complexity of the villain he faces. The casting of Keyser Söze as Lex Luthor is genius.

[*Laughs*]

How has Luthor changed from the Gene Hackman incarnation?

Well, he's been in prison for about five years, so he's a little pissed off. I think there is a measure of humor and whimsical nature that Kevin [Spacey] plays quite wonderfully. My Lex is a bit more sadistic—particularly when he goes up against Superman.

"I guarantee there will be no shortage of action, but beneath all that—for lack of a better expression—this will be the closest thing to a chick flick that I've ever directed."



Tell me about Parker Posey's portrayal of Kitty Kowalski.

To say [she] was not born from Ms. Teschmacher [in *Superman* and *Superman II*] would obviously be deception. I feel that every great villain needs a great villainess. I don't know how much she really likes Lex, but she's in it for the long con. She's just gonna wait and see how much she can get with this guy, and then she's on to the next. But she certainly is another level of humor in there. They're certainly the odd couple, so to speak, but they create a nice, humorous synergy when you're with the two of them.

When I was looking at the production diaries, scenes of Stephan Bender [young Clark Kent] in the running rig made me think, *That's what it would be like to see someone run at super speed.* What is it about doing practical special effects that often surpasses what's done with computers?

There's just a physical realness that you get from scenes you do on camera. Whether it ends up in the movie or just serves as a visual guide for the CG animators is [invaluable]. Of course, there will be enhancements and alterations, but to have physical leaps, and to run using some of the largest and most sophisticated wire rigs, gives us a framework to build realness. I think I have a pretty decent imagination, but it's really nice when you've got physical sets and real actors to play off of, because there are little things you don't expect. Invariably, someone will have built something into the set that will inspire a shot or an angle. Invariably, an actor will do something interesting that will inspire a scene, or have an innate talent that will make it.

Warner Bros. has announced it is heading into development on a *Superman Returns* sequel, and mentioned that you were attached. Have you really fallen in love with the Superman world?

I love it very much. I can't say that I'm officially attached yet—we've just begun those discussions—but there is certainly an interest in moving forward. Making the film, though logistically very difficult, was also really, really good at Warner Bros. The point is, we all got along wonderfully. After they've seen the film, if they decide they want me to do a sequel, it makes sense to move forward together on a sequel. Plus, there are things that have been layered into the film that would lend themselves to a sequel. I'm not saying [*Superman Returns*] won't be satisfying in the end—it's not a two-parter. But inking a deal or figuring out a schedule, we haven't specifically done that yet, nor is there a script.

How do you include a nod to the folks at comic cons and not end up making a film that's a *Where's Waldo* of geeky comic-book references?

"Not being too nostalgic for my own good" is what I call it. If it serves the story and it works, it's nice to go for it so a fan can enjoy it. I love seeing Noel Neill [Lois Lane in the 1948 *Superman*] sitting on the train in [the 1978] *Superman*. If it sticks out like a sore thumb … *cut it out!* Put it on the DVD! I'm trying, as I did with *X-Men*, to make a film that will do that balancing act. Too many inside jokes don't help for a group that isn't really familiar with them. But unlike *X-Men*, most everybody knows *Superman*. They know he has an *S* and a cape, and they know he flies. They may not know anything else, but at least they know that. While *X-Men* has a huge following, it is still a specific audience. What bothers me is that [comic-book artist] Alex Ross's interpretation of *Superman* is so exquisite and amazing, people look at how I've suited Brandon and see it as such a departure. What kills me is that in my mind, in spite of the *S* being smaller and raised, and the character being younger—in terms of the essence of what I see in the comic series—I see myself respecting it. I'm respecting it in a cinematic context that works on film.

I heard you struggled with back problems and exhaustion issues during the shoot. How do you begin to plan your next film? Would you rather shoot something small, will you take time off, or are you going to head straight into that huge *Logan's Run* remake?

I'm doing what I've always done: playing it by ear and seeing how I feel. When I feel full of energy, there's a part of me that would love to jump into another movie. And when I'm swamped, I say I'm going to take a year off, direct an episode of the TV show *House*—I love that, I'll spend more time on that. I'll produce another miniseries. I'll direct a show pilot. I'll do commercials. I love shooting commercials—I've shot 40 of them. Or I'll do a smaller movie. But a smaller movie has to be from the heart; it has to be really special to me. I'm reading scripts when usually I develop my own, and I haven't found it. The *Logan's Run* script is actually shaping up really well, and there's a lot of great advance work done on it. The issue becomes scheduling and feasibility. As of right now, I'm in no physical or mental position to comment on it. I think about it, but I just don't know what to do about it yet.

Who is the audience you are making this *Superman* for?

This one is for everybody, and I don't say that in a pandering way. The comic has been around since 1938. There are some moments where you know you can't please everyone, but really, this film is for everybody. I want grandparents to be able to take their grandkids to this movie. I like that it can be a real date movie. And if it gets a little intense, they can be okay.

I assume since you're doing a Superman movie, as opposed to a Batman movie, that you prefer Superman as a character. What is it about him?

I identify with Superman more than with other supertheroes—in the sense that he wasn't from a particularly wealthy family, and neither was I. He was adopted, and I was adopted. So you wonder where you came from. Superman comes to the big city with a certain measure of idealism. He gets ignored and abused sometimes, but he carries with him a potential, and an understanding of that potential, and he keeps it close to his belt. Bruce Wayne is a wealthy heir and suffered a tragedy, but I was actually raised by wonderful parents and I'm very lucky. Plus, Superman doesn't need a bunch of equipment. Bullets bounce off *him*, not a suit. Not that I'm dissing Batman. I love Batman, I grew up with Batman … but Superman is Superman.

By Ken Sander • Photographs by William Caste

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U.S. soccer star Landon Donovan checks in with *Penthouse's*

LANDON CALLING

Greg Lalas before leading the Americans to the 2006 World Cup.

Tabbed at age 15 as the next big thing (or first big thing) in American soccer, Landon Donovan has shouldered the weight of high expectations for his entire career. He has also, for the most part, lived up to them in style, winning the Golden Ball as the most outstanding player of the 1999 Under-17 World Championship, shining at the 2002 World Cup, and bagging three Major League Soccer championships in five seasons with the league. It's fair to say he's the best player the U.S. has produced to date. His only hiccups were two abbreviated stints in Germany with Bayer Leverkusen—the first at age 17 following his triumph at the World Youth Championship, and the second in 2005, after winning an MLS title with the San Jose Earthquakes. Both German sojourns ended unhappily as Donovan struggled to find playing time, felt isolated, and eventually expressed a desire to return to sunny California, where he

was raised in Redlands. His wish was granted on both occasions, prompting some soccer purists to wonder why Donovan couldn't—or wouldn't—thrive in the higher-stakes soccer environment abroad. Ignoring the critics, he promptly led his new club, the Los Angeles Galaxy, to the MLS title last season.

Donovan took time out from his preparation for the World Cup in—of all places—Germany to talk about the U.S.'s prospects at the tournament, the state of MLS, and how he has an "old soul" lodged within his 24-year-old body.

Let's start with the question that any guy who saw you in a bar would ask: What are the U.S. team's chances at the World Cup?

[*Laughs*] I'm pretty optimistic about our chances. I think the average sports fan or soccer fan assumes we should do as well as we did last time, which is a little bit false. But talent-wise, team-spirit-wise, athletically, tactically—I think we're definitely good enough.

Shouldn't the team be on an upward curve?

Look, France didn't even advance out of their group [in 2002], and they won the tournament in 1998. It's not like football, where you go [from] 3-13 to 5-11 to making the playoffs. It doesn't work that way. A lot of it depends on the group you get. And our group is difficult.

Your group includes three-time World Cup champion Italy; the Czech Republic, which is ranked No. 2 in the world; and World Cup first-timer Ghana. Who's the toughest team in there?

That's hard to say. It's different for every team. Our mind-set is to prepare for the Czechs and the Italians, but maybe playing against Ghana will be our most difficult game because we're so focused on the other two.

So you're more worried about Ghana than Italy or the Czechs?

You tend naturally to overlook Ghana, but that might be the game we have the most trouble with. In 2002, Poland was the team we thought beforehand that we would beat. And we ended up losing to them. But we got good results against the other two [Portugal and South Korea].

How has the U.S. team changed since 2002, when it reached the quarterfinals for the first time?

I feel like [in 2002] we had a lot more older leadership. And this time we don't have that. But what we do have is our youth, athleticism, speed, and talent. And a lot of us now have the experience of a World Cup under our belts. It's going to be different for us. People are expecting us, or at least think we have a good chance, to get out [of the group]. That is different from last time around, when no one expected us to do anything.

Of those young players, who do you expect to have a breakout tournament?

If Clint Dempsey continues to progress and play well, then it's hard not to put him on the field. You want to play guys who are in form at the right time. And if Eddie Johnson stays healthy and keeps growing, he's a guy who could lead the World Cup in scoring. The only question is if he's mentally ready to do it.

How important is it to be in form at the time of the tournament? So often, I see coaches pick their favorites or old standbys rather than guys who have been playing well.

It's very difficult for a coach. And it's not only about making that decision on game day. It's about making those decisions for the 23-man roster, because you might have a guy who played in 15 out of 18 qualifying games and helped get you there, but he's not playing well at the moment. So do you bring him or not? Do you reward him for getting you there? Do you choose him when someone else is playing a lot better?

With Kajlich (above) waiting in California, it's little wonder Donovan left Germany.

I think it needs a balance, but mainly you've got to look at a player's current form. It's difficult. I think Bruce [Arena, U.S. national team coach] has always believed that whoever is playing best at that moment is going to play. And I think that's really the only way you can do it. Because otherwise you get into mind games and guessing games. It's good for us competitively, too. We know all the time that if we're not playing well, we might not play.

Have you had any conflicts with Arena?

Not really. Early on, there were times I'd be frustrated with Bruce for different reasons. For a while, I got a little bit complacent. And that's not fair to him. But now I think our relationship is great. We're very honest with each other—and that's really all you can do. I've come to this place where I understand my role and I understand that more often than not, if I'm healthy and playing decently, I'm going to play.

What got you out of that complacency?

At 21, you think you're invincible and nothing can happen to you. Then you just go through the motions. But now I'm looked upon as a leader, and I think people look up to me on the team. They need me to perform. If I'm not playing well, if I'm not into a game, it's contagious and it hurts our team. It's not fair. So that's the responsibility I've realized, and now it's something I've come to cherish.

It's a strange responsibility, though—you're only 24.

Ah, I'm an old man.

An old man? Ha. Do you ever run into any problems leading people who are older than you?

No. Not even. Look, I believe age is just a number and we're all different mentally at different points in our lives. And I have a pretty old soul.

What do you mean?

I'm just … I'm like an old *man*, man. I still have my youthful moments, my immature moments, but for the most part, I'm like old people. I want to hang out at home and chill with my fiancée [actress Bianca Kajlich] and my dogs. I don't want to be out doing young people's stuff all the time.

That must not mesh very well with being the poster boy for U.S. soccer.

You've got to be true to yourself, first and foremost. You've got to be yourself. I could pretend to go out and be crazy and bring more attention to our sport, but that's not me. I'm happy with where I am in my life, with what I do.

That was a big part of your decision to come back from Germany in 2005, right?

Yeah. At the end of the day, if I'm 40 years old and I look back and realize I spent ten years of my life in Germany, miserable and thinking, *What the hell am I doing here?*, then it's not worth it. If I can say I came home, lived the prime part of my life doing what I wanted to do where I wanted to do it, and having fun and enjoying my life, then that's more important to me.

Any nervousness going back to Germany this summer? It's kind of ironic that the World Cup is being held there, considering your history.

I know, right? But I'm really excited. There's no resentment or animosity or anger or anything toward Germany or the Germans [over Donovan's two short-lived stints with Bayer Leverkusen]. I just really want us to succeed.

What have you done differently to prepare this year?

Our fitness coach gave us a program to follow [in the off-season], and I just followed it. I felt it was part of my role as a leader to come in ready to go.

The younger guys show up to camp six months before the World Cup and think they have time to get in shape.

Not only that, but also [they think], "I'm 22, 23; if I'm on the bubble and I don't make it, I can always make it next time." Some people have that mentality. Well, there's a reason why guys like Cobi Jones and Eddie Pope are still playing and still playing well. Kasey Keller. Brian McBride. You see it in everything they do. They're great professionals. I've learned a lot from that and I hope, I really hope, that the younger generation follows in the same footsteps.

Much of that younger generation is coming out of Major League Soccer. What are your thoughts on the league now, ten years after it started?

People criticize MLS and the decisions that the league and the people make. But I think we're doing a damn good job. It's not easy. I didn't go to college and I didn't major in economics, but I've learned a lot and I pay attention. It's not easy to make a sports league work. And we're making it work. Earlier this year the Red Bull people came in. You think, "Why does some Austrian company like Red Bull want to be in our league?" It's great. You're creating storylines. You're creating history right now. Every year, one, two, three, four good young players are coming up—not only generating interest here, but around the world.

Which of those young players could make an impact around the world?

Clearly, Eddie Johnson [of the Kansas City Wizards]. And Justin Mapp, who's in Chicago. Eddie Gaven [who's now on the Columbus Crew], if he can be healthy and get going, he's great. They're talented, a lot more talented than I ever was.

And certainly more talented than people overseas think they are.

Right. First of all, we have the most athletic people in the world. If we can mold more incredibly athletic guys like Clint Dempsey and Eddie Johnson, put them on a soccer field so they grow up with a soccer brain, with a passion for soccer—it's only a matter of time before we're a world power. And that's coming sooner than people think.

Not in 2006, obviously, though the U.S. did reach No. 5 in the world—its highest ranking ever.

In the grand scheme of things, it doesn't matter. If we don't get out of our group at the World Cup, it doesn't matter. But we're still winning. And I don't care what anyone says: Some of these CONCACAF [Confederation of North, Central American, and Caribbean Association Football, the U.S.'s qualifying region] games—I think any European team would have trouble. You still have to win the games. And we do.

You mentioned the idea of spirit. How hard is it to find the right chemistry for the World Cup with so little time to prepare beforehand as a team?

The real reason it's hard is because it's so competitive. There are so many financial and other rewards that can be gained from playing in the World Cup. That's what makes it difficult. But we have the best coach in the world at creating an atmosphere around the team. He does it like no one else. It's a complete art.

How does he do it?

I don't know. I wish I could pinpoint it. Bruce just manages people well. He doesn't care about anything else except his team. He could care less about the media or his bosses. His goal is to make sure that we're happy, that we're ready and prepared. And that's what he focuses on. Sometimes he comes across as being a jerk or being ruthless, but his intention is to make sure that we're protected and getting everything we need. As a player, how can you ask for more?

> "You've got to be true to yourself, first and foremost. You've got to be yourself. I could pretend to go out and be crazy and bring more attention to our sport, but that's not me. I'm happy with where I am in my life, with what I do."

Previous pages: Photograph courtesy of Nike. Photos by (clockwise): AP; Ronald Martinez/Getty Images; Steve Grantz/Wireimage.com

By Laura Leu

Sexual Independence

Illustration by Brian Ajhar

Eleven score and ten years ago, America told Great Britain to pack up its shit and get the hell outta the 13 Colonies. Sure, they had already invested two centuries into the relationship and made a lot of great discoveries along the way, like Plymouth Rock and Pocahontas in a leather dress, but their constant bickering over political representation and economic policy was driving them to make war, not love. The final straw came when Brit pulled that crap with the Tea Act. "You are too taxing; we need to split up," America finally declared. "I want my independence!" Now, 230 years later, the United States and the United Kingdom are sovereign nations, but they occasionally call upon each other in times of need—like an international booty call.

Why am I giving you this history lesson when all you wanna read is a sexy story about me getting rammed in the ass by a stranger at a truck stop? Because a stranger has never rammed me in the ass at a truck stop. Also? This isn't just a lesson on independence—it's a lesson on sexual independence, for the U.S. and the U.K. are the forefathers of the fuck-buddy system. Think about it: Two independent entities that share a lot of history reunite when one of them is hard up for an ally, and after the job is done, they both go back to their respective territories. It's sexual independence!

"Really, I'm an independent woman.... I've traveled Europe alone.... But there are certain unalienable rights that I *do* depend on, and those are life, liberty, and the pursuit of a post-fuck cuddle."

F.B. Truths Are Self-Evident

Britain and America have it pretty good, having gone nearly a quarter of a century without a glitch in their fuck-buddy system. Most people aren't that lucky. Because, like hanging out with Cheech, keeping a friend for fuck's sake *seems* like a fun time—but it will eventually go to pot. Most of my guy friends have had an F.B. at some point in their lives, and almost all of these alliances have gone kaput when the girl oversteps her boundaries. She'll start calling a little too often, or stopping by just to say hi. Blown kisses replace blowjobs, and a post-sex sleepover replaces the post-sex "see ya." They came, they saw, and now they want to conquer your territory.

I'm not saying fuck buddies *never* work out. My friend Ross, 27, had a successful three-year run with a 46-year-old divorcée. Another guy I know had a strictly friends-with-benefits relationship for a couple of years with a stripper who had daddy issues. And, yes, there are also normal women who can fuck without getting attached.

The Declaration

Independence can liberate sex in the same way that sex can obliterate independence. My ex Jaron and I had sex that rivaled the Fourth of July: It was hot, there were a lot of fireworks, and after I'd get off, he'd declare his independence by revolting to the other side of the bed. Jaron, you see, wasn't a cuddler. What he said is, "It's too uncomfortable; I'm an active sleeper." What I heard is, "I have intimacy issues; my mom didn't touch me enough as a child." The problem is, I'm an affection slut, so when I wasn't getting the affection I craved, I started cuddle-raping him—giving him a touch here, a feel there, a head-on-his-shoulder everywhere. I wasn't doing it consciously; it was a reaction to not getting any touch-feely action from him. As a result, I came off as needy and dependent. Ew.

Really, I'm an independent woman (cue Beyoncé). I've traveled Europe alone, and I can eat in a restaurant by my lonesome without giving a rat's patoot. But there are certain unalienable rights that I *do* depend on, and those are life, liberty, and the pursuit of a post-fuck cuddle. That's my declaration. Now where do I put my John Hancock?

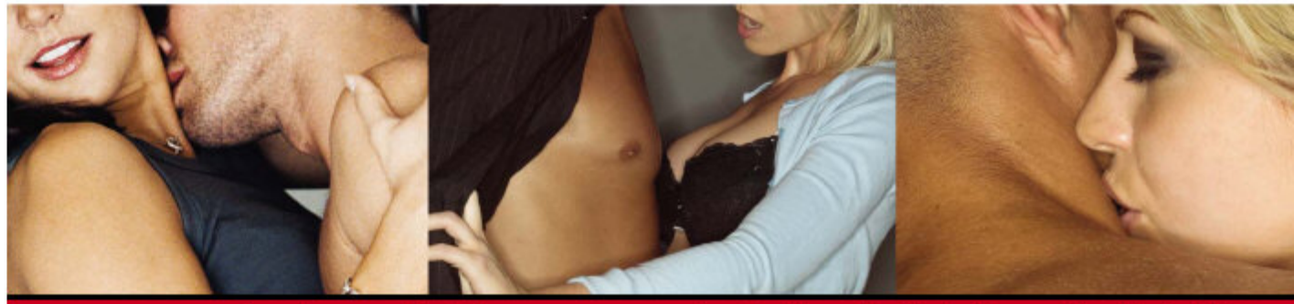
Steffanie Seaver
Relationship and Intimacy Columnist

Advertisement

FREE MONTH SUPPLY

*See Reader's Note

She Can't Get Enough of Her Guy...
Is She Normal?



Seaver on Sex: *Guys always want to be the one a woman never forgets – the one that "rocked her world" and "ruined it for all the rest". See what one woman had to say about a SEX SECRET that kept her coming back for more...*

Dear Steffanie,

I read your column every month and always enjoy learning about the latest tips and products you recommend for "AMAZING SEX". I told this new guy I've been seeing about one of your latest "hot picks", you know the one you recommend that all guys should be using to really make a woman lose her mind. Well, he surprised me one night when he took me up on it ... OH – MY – GOD – now I find myself calling him during all hours of the night!

I can't stop thinking about it – he actually has me "quivering with anticipation"! In fact, I think I may have a problem, because if a day goes by without my guy and his secret weapon I get really cranky! I feel like I have to have him all the time but I'm starting to worry that I'm having too much sex! Is it possible? Am I normal?

Sharon, Cincinnati, OH

Dear Sharon,

Not only are you normal, I think you're doing great! I recommend a lot of products in my columns but there's only one that's ever left me feeling exactly as you describe -"quivering with anticipation"! You guys must be using that phenomenal sex secret topical, **MAXODERM Connection! It's an experience all men should provide and no woman will want to miss!** Before my guy was "MY GUY", he was pretty ordinary: cute but not gorgeous, of average height and weight, and average in the bedroom. I enjoyed being with him but sexually he just didn't knock my socks off. Just when I was about to break it off, he did something that turned our average "sleepover" into my greatest fantasy.

He completely rocked my world and now there's NOTHING (and I do mean "NOTHING") I wouldn't do for that man!

One night we went back to his place and he was making all the "usual" moves but then he reached into his nightstand and pulled out a small tube of something I'd never seen before.

When I asked him what it was, he explained that **MAXODERM Connection** is from the same makers of MAXODERM (the miracle topical that instantly helps improve erection quality for better performance – it's now even recommended by a leading urologist). But, **MAXODERM Connection** is different – it helps men understand and give their woman what they really want – MORE PLEASURE during foreplay and THE BIG O! It works so well that any woman that tries it will keep coming back for more – guys, when she's up at 2am looking for a playmate after a night on the town with the girls, guess who she's going to call!

And best of all, with **MAXODERM Connection**, the guy still gets all the performance benefits while we get the intensified pleasure and sensation, which for me, always leads to explosive orgasms…over and over again!

We took turns "applying it" to each other, and within a few minutes, I truly felt sensations I'd never felt before…I forgot those feelings even existed! We went all night long - it truly was the best sex I've ever had in my entire life! Now we don't go without it!

Guys, you want to pass the test with flying colors – you want to be at the top of her speed dial, then here's what you NEED to know. Women want GREAT FOREPLAY and we want the same great "Os" that you're always having. Show her that you GET IT and she'll be coming back to YOU more times than you can handle. And with MAXODERM Connection, it's like having the answers to the test. (Hint: no matter what I say, most guys still just won't get it – you bring MAXODERM Connection into the mix, be prepared to buy A LOT of it!)

Sincerely,

Steffanie

Reader's Note:

When I last ordered **Maxoderm Connection**, I received a **FREE MONTH SUPPLY** with my order, I'm pretty sure you can still get one too. Just call **1-800-442-5934** or visit their website **www.maxodermct.com**. Maxoderm Connection is backed by a **120 Day Full Money Back Guarantee** so you can **try it absolutely RISK FREE.**

Individual results may vary. These statements have not been evaluated by the FDA. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease.

Photographs by Richard Anderson

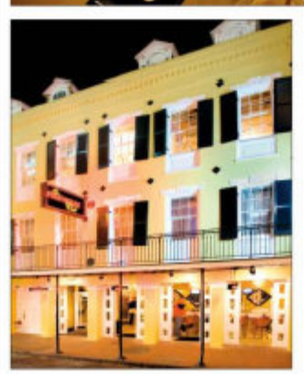
PEEK INSIDE

Pulse of the City

There have always been three things synonymous with Bourbon Street: parties, booze, and nonstop decadent pleasure. Now that the Big Easy is valiantly fighting back from the ravages of Hurricane Katrina, what better way to celebrate than in the newest Penthouse Club, located smack in the middle of the French Quarter. It's just steps away from eclectic five-star hotels, wild cabarets, and live jazz music.

The most gorgeous women are handpicked to dance atop the club's three stages. And the space is massive, with three floors stretched over 10,000 square feet. But you can always count on special treatment in one of the club's 18 private suites. Get 12 of your friends together and reserve a *Penthouse* executive suite that's decked out with luxurious couches, 42-inch plasma televisions, surround-sound entertainment, private restrooms, a steady stream of top-shelf liquor—and your own private stage. Or you can opt for a junior executive suite, which overlooks the main stage and hosts parties of four to six on comfortable leather couches. For smaller groups, the *Penthouse* suites boast balcony views overlooking the main club and hold two to four people.

There's no shortage of Pet love in New Orleans. Once a month, a sexy Pet of the Month drops by to meet her fans and sign autographs, maybe even kicking back for a cocktail and a dance for lucky patrons. And the fun never has to stop: The night ends when the customers say so—the club typically keeps its doors open till the last client leaves. Talk about star treatment!

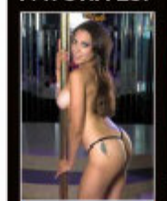


Top: Jamie Lynn (POY '06), Charlie Laine (February '06), Jennifer Emerson (March '06), and Krista Ayne (April '06) smile pretty. Below, at left: Jamie Lynn and Charlie pucker up for the camera.

NEW ORLEANS

PENTHOUSE DANCER OF THE MONTH: KRISTEN

MORE NEW ORLEANS FAVORITES:

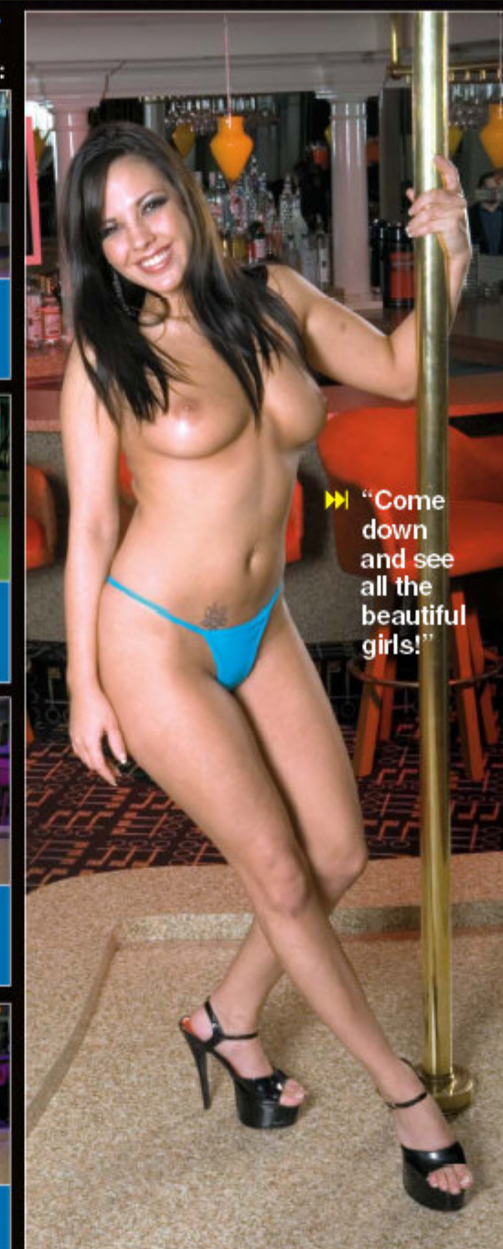


VANESSA
Loves men with self-confidence

JORDAN
Loves barbecue and movies

RAVEN
Loves whips and chains

LEAH
Loves tall men, a sense of humor



"Come down and see all the beautiful girls!"

GET TO KNOW KRISTEN

Turn-ons: nice backs and white teeth

Turnoffs: very hairy chests

My ideal man is: someone with big brown eyes who makes me laugh.

My ideal date is: a nice dinner and a late night out on the town.

Best thing about the club: My coworkers are great, and the club is beautiful.

For more info on events at Penthouse Clubs nationwide, visit PenthouseClubs.com.

ALMOST

FAMOUS

Photographs by Sylvie Blum

Bored with being
a groupie,
Leona imagines
all eyes on
her as she moves
to the beat
of her own music.

One final erotic encore leaves her

BREATHLESS

and sated, yet ready for more.

By Victoria Zdrok, Ph.D.

ASK DOC ZDROK

The Hard Stuff

I love having sex with my girlfriend, but sometimes I don't get as hard as I should. I know everything works based on the quality of my morning wood, but occasionally I start worrying about it during sex and lose my erection. How can I achieve better hard-ons?—R.M., Florida

Seriously, stop worrying about your willyûSex researchers Masters and Johnson coined the phrase "spectatoring"—watching and worrying about the rigidity of your erection. It's normal for your erection to wax and wane during sex, but if you're spectatoring you'll panic when "he" goes soft. Then you'll tense up and thrust harder in an attempt to "use it before you lose it." This actually makes matters worse: When a man squeezes his pelvic muscles as his penis is getting soft, he restricts blood flow. Plus, if you tense up, your body will trigger the stress response, which releases adrenaline. All this puts the kibosh on your erection. Finally, trying to will an erection shifts a man into performance mode, which ups his anxiety. If you feel yourself start to lose it, don't panic or thrust harder or faster—instead, breathe, relax your legs, and move slowly.

Some guys experience what is called the pelvic steal syndrome. As a man becomes aroused, he may unconsciously tighten the muscles in his legs, abs, or butt. This diverts the blood necessary for his erection to those muscles instead. Therefore, it's important to keep all your muscles as relaxed as possible when you're getting or losing an erection. If you start to panic, just concentrate on touching your partner.

Snore-gasm

I think my girlfriend has been faking orgasms. How can I tell for sure? Does it mean she's just not into me?—S.M., California

Some women are amazing when it comes to faking. Most, however, don't bother to fake the physiological signs—they just imitate the loud theatrical vocalizations so popular in porn. Try to observe whether your girlfriend experiences noticeable vaginal contractions, changes in her heartbeat or pulse, flushed cheeks, or if her nipples become erect—all telltale signs of an orgasm. But even if you're convinced she's faking, don't call her on it. Instead, ask her what you can do differently to please her. For some women, faking their O can actually be beneficial. Why? It can teach them to imitate the facial expressions and bodily movements of orgasm, and to let go of any shame and self-scrutiny. Learning to vocalize and imitate orgasm is the first step toward climactic abandonment, so be forgiving if you catch your girlfriend doing this.

And no, it doesn't mean she's not into you—in fact, one of the most common reasons women fake orgasm is because they want to please their partners. I have felt pressured to please the men I was most aroused by, often at the expense of my own sexual satisfaction. Maybe she's afraid she'll take too long to orgasm, or that her face would look funny in the throes of orgasmic spasms. Take your time with foreplay and oral sex: The average woman needs about 20 minutes of stimulation before reaching orgasm. Tell her to take control and use you as a sexual object for her gratification. One of my best Pet friends had her first orgasm when her lover told her he wanted her to sit on his face all night longü

Freaky Fantasy

This sounds bizarre, but whenever I'm masturbating I really want to eat my semen. Then when I finally ejaculate, I get grossed out by the idea. How do I get this nasty thought out of my head? Or should I just try it?—L.M., Connecticut

Surprisingly, your semen-eating fantasy is fairly common. During masturbation, we often fantasize about things we may otherwise find disgusting or morally reprehensible. (I knew a woman who fantasized about having sex with Saddam Hussein and hated herself for it.) The loss of desire to try it once you ejaculate is in line with the general post-ejaculation loss of interest in sex. There's nothing wrong with the fantasy, except for the fact that you're judging yourself. But if it keeps eating at you, try a taste. Reality might be enough to kill off the fantasy.

"Tell her to take control and use you as a sexual object. One of my friends had her first orgasm when her guy asked her to sit on his face all night long!"

GETTING TO ME!
If you have a question, a story, a sex toy for me, or just a (nice) comment, please visit Penthouse.com/drz, **e-mail** victoria@penthouse.com, **or send snail mail to Dr. Victoria Zdrok, *Penthouse*, 2 Penn Plaza, Suite 1125, New York, N.Y. 10121.**

SEX DEVICE OF THE MONTH

What: Does your girl bug you for sex while you're watching the game? If so, you may be in need of the Topco Love Machine.
How: The console adjusts from vertical to horizontal and anywhere in between, so she can ride it while sitting, doggie-style, on her back. It comes with six attachments, including a masturbation sleeve, a five-inch vibe, a G-spot vibe, and an anal plug.
Why: It can alleviate performance anxiety and prime her for multiple Os.
Downside: You'll need the space to store it, and it requires careful cleaning before each use. And since no guy can compete with a robot in terms of staying power and steadiness, don't let her to get too attached to it.
Upside: It's lightweight and portable, so you can quickly stash it away in case your mom—or worse, hers—pays you an unexpected visit.
How much: $298
Where: PenthouseStore.com

SEX ED

Hot Tip From a Sexy Author

"Use your gaze to seduce your partner as you make love.... Caress your partner as you both keep your eyes open and locked on to each other. Gaze deeply into his or her eyes as you climb on top and start to move, stroking up and down, in and out.... Keep your movements flowing and sensuous, and force your partner to look back at you with the power of the sexual energy you create. To help both of you come down from orgasm, lie together in a grounding embrace."—Barbara Keesling, Ph.D., *Sexual Healing: The Complete Guide to Overcoming Common Sexual Problems* (Hunter House, 2006)

TOP 10 ...

Annoying Things Men Do in Bed

1. Leaving your socks or shoes on. Take them off *first* and stash them far, far away from our sensitive noses. Remove your pants last.
2. Answering your cell phone—particularly if it's your mother calling. Better yet, turn off your ringer.
3. Chitchatting. The only thing you should be talking about is how much we turn you on.
4. Keeping the TV on. Focus on us and forget everything else—we don't notice your bald spot.
5. Spitting globs of saliva. It's gross, and we don't care if you see it in porn movies.
6. Hitting our cheek with your penis. It won't make your penis bigger or harder. Show us what you can do when you use it correctly.
7. Mentioning your ex-girlfriend. When our panties come off, we're the only woman in the world.
8. Snickering or telling jokes. Lose your humor with your clothes. You can pick it up again during post-coital bliss—*after* you've told us how great it was for you.
9. Using infantile pet names for body parts. A cock is a cock, not a wee-wee. We don't care what you call it when you're beating off; if you're going to get into us, you'd better be over 18 and act like it.
10. Offering us a used sex toy—gross.

SEXPERIMENT

The Extended Massive Orgasm

When I read about achieving an *hour-long* female orgasm in *Extended Massive Orgasm* by Steve Bodansky, Ph.D., and Vera Bodansky, Ph.D., I knew I had to try it. Hell, if a 20-second spasm felt good, an hour should be orgasmic nirvana. However, upon closer analysis I realized we had two problems: The process requires (1) total surrender by the woman (I am a control freak), and (2) a patient lover who loves to manually stimulate a woman (neither of which describes my partner). But I wheedled, pleaded, and used my feminine wiles to convince him to try it.

I lay on my back with my legs wide apart and took a deep breath. He slowly rubbed my clitoris with a lubricated finger, then added pressure from his middle finger and thumb on my vaginal opening. When I felt my orgasm approaching, I let him know so he could slow down, then use short, quick strokes to bring me back up again.

He lubed up, made a *V* shape with the pointer and middle fingers of his other hand, and inserted them into my vagina, applying pressure with an in-and-out motion at the 11 and one o'clock positions—all while continuing the clitoral stimulation. I quickly got very wet and turned on. But then he began to complain that his wrists hurt. Having anticipated this cop-out (and having memorized the instructions), I told him to change the position of his fingers to stimulate me at three and nine o'clock while pushing downward with two fingers at six o'clock. My clit was throbbing and my squirms, coupled with the added stimulation, sent me over the edge. While not an hour long, my climax was more intense and lasted longer than usual.

But as they say, practice makes perfect.

Photograph of Victoria by Wanan Tang

By Lainie Speiser

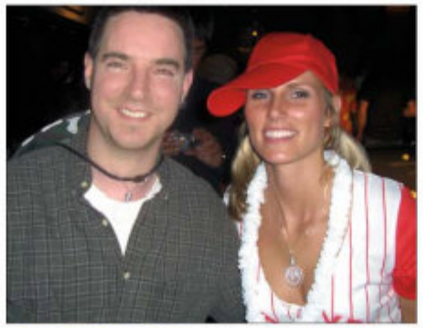
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

Hot Homecoming

The Midwest sizzled when we descended on the Wolverine State, leaving a trail of wild parties and naughty antics in our wake.

When *Penthouse* sponsors a homecoming, things are sure to heat up—even in Kalamazoo, Michigan, at the end of October. We hosted a pub crawl through the campus of Western Michigan University, and thousands of students enjoyed libations at Waldo's Campus Tavern, the Y Bar, and famous 50-cent drafts at Wayside West.

As one might expect, there was no lack of sexy hijinks from female students and cheerleaders during the festivities. The weekend was capped off by the largest tailgate party ever thrown on campus. Special thanks to Stuart, manager of Waldo's Campus Tavern, the Cockpit House on campus, and of course to our homecoming host: the ever-crazy, ever-wild Hot Carl. See you soon, guys!



WMU students catch *Penthouse* fever as the girls dance up a storm and show their sexy spirit.

Left: Jeff Edinger and Chris Shotts. Opposite page, top right: Brent Halsey; bottom left: Stacy Valentine

NEW YORK CITY

Nightclub Angels

Heavenly creatures were everywhere at Webster Hall's "Shred Your Ex" party. The leading ladies were Pet **Krista Ayne** (April '06) and **Victoria "Dr. Z" Zdrok** (POY '04), each sporting wings and dressed as sexy angels. "I came in red because I'm a little devil," Victoria confided. "Krista's still innocent—but not after tonight." But Victoria earned her wings when she auctioned herself off for a date to benefit the great work of New York's Lower East Side Kids children's charity. After raising $1,000, Victoria and Krista honored the lucky winner with a Pet sandwich. To find out about Webster Hall's parties, visit WebsterHall.com.

TAMPA

Jennifer gets Bubba-licious

Florida got even stickier when **Jennifer Emerson** (March '06), a Jacksonville resident, stopped by the notorious **"Bubba the Love Sponge"** show in Tampa. Bubba, now a major star on Sirius Satellite Radio's Howard 100 channel, let loose with the busty blonde as she talked about her favorite sexual positions and how she lets a stranger know she wants to get busy. "The time went by very quickly," Jennifer says. "I just let go and let it happen." Bubba's home studio has a stripper pole, and Jennifer was excited to try it out. For more photos of Jennifer and other Pets, go to BubbaTheLoveSponge.com.

WEST HOLLYWOOD

Grammy Girls

Cutie-pie Pet **Charlie Laine** (February '06) was introduced to newcomer **Nevaeh** (May '06) at a Grammy after-party in West Hollywood's Pacific Design Center, where the two partied with Wicked contract girl **Kristen Price**. "I used to be in beauty pageants," says blonde Nevaeh. "But being a Penthouse Pet is so much more fun!"

WANNA PARTY WITH PENTHOUSE PETS?

Log on to Penthouse.com to find the latest event in your area, or tell us where you think we should go next. Send suggestions to: ***Penthouse* magazine, c/o Promotions Department, 2 Penn Plaza, Eleventh Floor, Suite 1125, New York, N.Y. 10121,** and we may drop by sooner than you think.

NEW YORK CITY

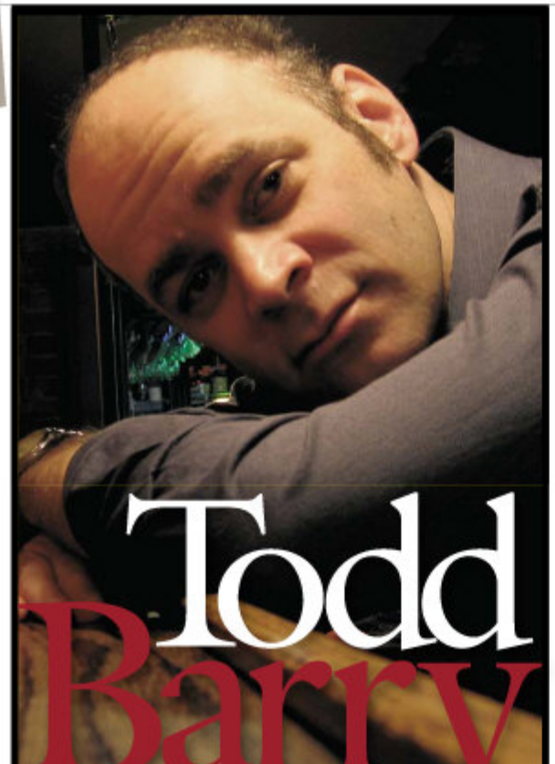
Soccer Sirens

Jamie Lynn (POY '06) and **Cassia Riley** (POY Runner-Up '06) were on hand to support the *Penthouse* soccer team, led by Director of Licensing **Rick Holtman** and Sports Editor **John Bolster**. But the girls distracted both sides by screaming, "Nice fucking ass, Rick!" and "John, you're so hot!"

By John Bolster

TRADING PUNCH LINES WITH COMEDY'S BEST

Todd Barry



"Are you talking about my Billy Joel tribute band? The band that only plays "A Matter of Trust"—sometimes twice in a row? Yes, I hope we do more shows. And if any famous rockers are reading this, invite us to be on the bill with you."

Todd Barry is a veteran comic with multiple appearances on *Late Night With Conan O'Brien*, *Late Show With David Letterman*, and Comedy Central, which featured his half-hour stand-up special. Barry also appeared in the films *Road Trip* and *Pootie Tang*, and has lent his voice to a number of animated shows and characters, including *Space Ghost Coast-to-Coast*, *Aqua Teen Hunger Force*, and *Dr. Katz, Professional Therapist*. His understated delivery has been killing fans softly for years.

Halfway through a very positive Amazon.com customer review of your debut CD, *Medium Energy*, the reviewer uses the term "anyhoo" ... twice. Can we trust this review?
I think a person should be tolerant of other people's linguistic quirks. You heard me.

I will personally vouch for your latest CD, *Falling off the Bone*. It's pretty damn funny, and I like the title. Am I wrong to think of it as an abstract reference to your low-key, almost tender delivery and succulent material?
I was with you until you used the word *succulent*.

In addition to being a talented comedian, you play the drums. Your band, A Matter of Trust, played with Belle and Sebastian and the New Pornographers. Will we see you on tour at any time in the future?
Are you talking about my Billy Joel tribute band, A Matter of Trust? The band that only plays the song "A Matter of Trust"—sometimes twice in a row? Yes, I hope we do more shows. And if any famous rockers are reading this, invite us to be on the bill with you.

You once sat in on drums with Yo La Tengo while wearing Peter Criss makeup. Please describe this experience.
If I remember correctly, they said Peter Criss was in the audience and wanted to sit in on a tune. So I walked up there in full makeup and rocked out on a snare drum.

Without using Google, can you tell me the band's name before they changed it to KISS? (They wore the makeup then, by the way, but no costumes.)
Hmm ... I probably could've answered this one 30 years ago. [*Editor's note:* The answer is Wicked Lester; they recorded an album's worth of material for Epic Records in 1972.]

You excel at "crowd work"—talking to the audience about whatever comes up in the moment. Is that more rewarding than getting a laugh from a prepared bit?
Sometimes I do crowd work because I'm bored with myself, but I also like the crapshoot nature of it. And audiences like it because it's spontaneous.

Do you tailor your sets to a given audience, say from New York compared to Middle America, or New York compared to the U.K.?
I don't make huge adjustments. But I would obviously leave out really specific New York references when I'm not performing in New York, or not mention a U.S. store when I'm performing in the U.K.

Your Website features a funny short film you made called *Borrowing Saffron*. Turns out borrowing the world's most expensive spice can be pretty risky. What other household items should be off-limits to good neighbors?
My doorbell.

You once found a syringe in first class on an airplane and were rewarded with two more first-class tickets for not making a stink about it. Fair deal?
They sent me two first-class upgrade certificates, not two first-class tickets. I think two first-class tickets would've been a fair deal.

Have you used the upgrades?
I actually only used one. I left the other one on a plane. No lie.

What projects are you working on now?
I was one of the writers for *The Sarah Silverman Programme*, which will be on Comedy Central in July. And I'm trying to get a movie made based on my one-man show, *Icky*, which is the true story of a woman who trashed me on the Internet.

For more on Todd Barry, go to ToddBarry.com.

Photograph by Seth Olenick/Retna Ltd.

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What's hot (and not) in online porn

FROM Sir Rodney .com

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MILF HUNTER ★★★★★

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KISS MY CRACK ★★★★★

With a name like this, I suppose close-ups of women licking some guy's ass shouldn't be surprising. And assuming only a truck-stop crack whore would do such a thing, no shock that that's exactly what we get. There's enough HMA (hairy man ass) in porn as it is...

AMATEUR CANADA ★★★★★

Now we know how they stay warm in winter. Over 100 real amateurs frolic here, including Maja, a super-hot slutty Asian, and Vanessa, an Alanis morisette without the Issues. Should be called itty-bitty-titties, but the girls are cute despite, and Rodney's little Iditerod got a work out. Finally a reason for a 51st state...

Read more at SirRodney.com

http://www.SirRodney.com

X-RATED VIDEO

By Eric Danville

Ho's on the Range

Shane's World Volume 37: Country Girls
(New Sensations) ♦♦♦♦

The successful *Shane's World* franchise, most notorious for filming those vulnerable students at Indiana University having sex, is back. This time a Montana dude ranch is the scene of the crime. One of the greatest things about *Shane's World* is the chance it affords the talent to be real on camera. Tory Lane and Jordan Styles are two crazy-ass bitches who don't shy away from the lens. After the drive to the ranch, the steamy action starts up in fine form. Mr. Pete and sexy blonde Styles get it on in the great outdoors, humping and bumping in the woods in a great display of getting back to nature. The only drawback is the scene's too short. Super sexy Taryn Thomas spends some quality time with Kris Knight, giving a sloppy BJ before tossing him a wild fuck in a small cottage, then fucking Mr. Pete later in the day. Along the way there are near-fights, lots of boozing, and hookups—the girls pick up a couple of locals at a rodeo for a quick handjob in the back of a truck. This one gets a big ol' yee-haw!

Colon All Cars!

Butt Blasted Too
(VCA) ♦♦♦

Some interesting camera work by director Thomas Zupko punctuates this journey up the pink and puckered ass-holes of some fine female fuck-flesh. After pouring red wine all over Mary Anne's ass, Kris Slater gives it another round, first with his tongue then with his sizable schlong after some straightaway oral and vaginal fucking. Michelle Lay seems like the most fun on a date, starting out by slapping her own cute titties before giving it up in a big fucking way. Hers is the best scene, thanks to her beautiful face and the enthusiasm she brings to banging her stud. The final scene is a smoker. Blonde cutie Jessica Kaine is a fine-looking thing as well, and her scene with the black and buff Mr. Marcus is as hot as any he's done, although his dialogue coach should have kept him on a slightly shorter leash. While you'd think the emphasis would be on full-blown anal sex, as the title implies, the ass fucking is just the icing on the cake. *Blassted* boasts many scenes filled with sexy action and superb camera work.

We Ream It, M-A-A-A-N!

Fuck the System
(Loaded Digital) ♦♦♦♦

Director Rob Rotten really raises the alt-porn bar with this fuck of a show. In "Skinheads Are No Fun," Lyla Lei gets balled on a pool table, complete with sloppy BJ, a raucous double penetration, and a stream of foreign babble we're still trying to figure out. Katrina Kraven has a hot one in "Breaking the Law," with Van Damage as a crooked beat cop who catches her breaking into a car. But hands down, the best scene is "At the Show," where my girl Gia Paloma—looking majorly fuckable in a Rancid T-shirt, plaid skirt, fishnets, and a liberty-spike mohawk—fucks, sucks, and does the pervy pogo with Rotten in a skanky club during a gig by the Smut Peddlers. The punk porn features pussy, skateboards, and a slamming soundtrack. The included bonus soundtrack disc features tracks by Anal Cunt, Youth Brigade, and Antiseen. What the fuck else could you want?

All the DVDs reviewed in *Penthouse* can be purchased at PenthouseStore.com.

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By Aaron Karo

There's No Place Like Home

I've always kept an internal list of all the cities in which I would consider living. Now, at the ripe age of 26, I've lived in every single city on the list. Granted, the list is only two cities long—New York and Los Angeles—but I still consider it to be a pretty major milestone in my young life. Perhaps you think it's a little close-minded of me to have such a short list. To that I respond, "You're right." I've now lived in L.A. for a full year, but recently I made the trek back to New York to figure out if one can really go home again.

The most depressing thing about returning to your former city is realizing you have no place to stay. I broke up with my New York girlfriend when I moved to California, so that option is out. But even if I try to work the "let's get back together … but I really just need somewhere to sleep" angle, it'd be fruitless because my ex moved shortly after I did.

Sure, I have friends I could (and do) crash with, but that's only comfortable for about two days. Weekend days. When Monday rolls around, my friends all go to work, and I find myself alone in an unfamiliar apartment, looking in vain for porn under my buddy's bed.

On a positive note, there's something about returning to Manhattan for a few days that gives me a boost with the ladies. It's sort of like when you get the star in *Super Mario Bros.* that makes you invincible for a short period of time. First of all, the bars close at 4 A.M. in New York, as opposed to 2 A.M. in Los Angeles. That extra time between 2 and 3 A.M. is the magic hour, when the ladies are drunk and tired. Plus, they know I live in Los Angeles. Could there be any fewer strings attached? (Although even if I lived down the block, I probably wouldn't call.)

It's also fortunate that my parents still live in the house I grew up in. I'm from a town on Long Island about 40 minutes from the city, so making it back to my old digs is pretty easy. Even after going away to college and living on my own, there's always something magical about sleeping in the tiny twin-size bed in your old room. Or maybe it's just because my bedroom is over the garage, and the fumes give me a nice buzz.

When I visit New York now, it feels like just that: visiting. But when I return to L.A., I feel like … I'm also only visiting. You know when your plane lands on a trip to Florida or Mexico and you feel that warm breeze and smell the slight scent of ocean, and it puts you in a vacation mood? That's kind of what it feels like to arrive in Los Angeles. In the end, I *think* you can go home again. I feel comfortable visiting New York, but the longer I'm away, the stranger it is to visit. I really hope I don't become one of those eccentric L.A. people with linen pants and orange skin. Otherwise, I just might have to lengthen my list of cities.

Mailbag, to me! If you have a serious question that requires a constructive, thoughtful answer, send it to *Men's Fitness*. All other questions, shoot 'em over to karo@penthouse.com.

Dear Karo:
I had a one-night stand with a friend, and now I'm starting to develop feelings for her. I'm pretty sure she considers it a one-time drunken thing, but is there any way to turn this into a long-term relationship?

Usually guys try to sleep with girls they barely know and *then* accidentally become friends with them without ever getting laid. You actually went the opposite way: You took one of your existing friends and added benefits. You're my hero.

Now, as for the task of turning drunken fun into months of nagging and paying for expensive dinners, I have to ask: Why? Have you had sex in the past six months? If the answer is no, this might be your dick talking. The only way to find out if she's into it is to continue hanging out without having sex. If you two connect without literally connecting, you're on your way. Let me know when you fuck it up.

"There's something about returning to Manhattan for a few days that gives me a boost with the ladies. It's sort of like when you get the invincibility star in *Super Mario Bros.*"

Photograph by Lionel Delay

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By Ernest Volkman

No respect for "Pappy" Boyington, commander of World War II's famous "Black Sheep" squadron

The Soldiers' Tab

One morning in December 2001, Louis Tortorella, a captain in the Army National Guard, was ordered to leave his civilian job in Brookline, New Hampshire, and report to Camp Edwards on Cape Cod to serve antiterrorist security assignments.

He was among thousands of Massachusetts National Guard soldiers called to active duty in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attack. And, like virtually all his fellow guardsmen, Tortorella was proud of serving in the war on terror. But he didn't expect to have to pay for the privilege.

When he arrived at Camp Edwards, Tortorella was stunned by this unsettling phrase in his orders: "Government quarters not available, meals not available, per diem not authorized." In other words, Tortorella would have to buy his own meals, find a place to stay, and foot the bill for work-related travel expenses.

Tortorella served 21 months on active duty—an experience that cost him $14,625 in out-of-pocket expenses. So he and thousands of other Massachusetts National Guard soldiers who had to pay their own way decided to fight back: They filed a class-action lawsuit.

The suit, now winding its way through the federal court system, alleges that Massachusetts's part-time soldiers are owed nearly $73 million.

Basically, the Pentagon's response amounts to a legalism. It's arguing

that National Guard soldiers called up under Title 10 of federal law were federalized, and thus were paid out of the federal budget. But thousands of other soldiers—including Tortorella—were activated "under state command," which means the state is responsible for their pay and meals. Massachusetts officials argue that it is idiotic to make states pay National Guard forces who are called to active duty on federal orders, as was the case after 9/11.

The real problem here is another symptom of the Pentagon's gross planning failures after 9/11. National Guard units were called up wholesale without planning for sufficient housing or mess facilities. Then, faced with an escalating bill, Pentagon officials retroactively decreed that most of the activated National Guard forces should be paid by the states.

The government's defense in this case may be undercut by an ongoing review by the Government Accountability Office, which reportedly has turned up plenty of horror stories—such as a claim that soldiers of the Maryland National Guard were ordered to hitchhike to cut transportation expenses.

Thanks to the television series *Baa, Baa Black Sheep*, even Americans born long after World War II know about the legendary Gregory "Pappy" Boyington, commander of the "Black Sheep" squadron, whose famous exploits made him one of America's greatest war heroes. So no one expected any opposition when some students at the University of Washington—Boyington's alma mater—sought approval from the school's student senate to erect a monument in his honor. But they didn't reckon on how deep the lunacy of political correctness has infected that campus.

The senate rejected the monument on the grounds that Boyington was "not the right kind of person" to represent the school, as one member phrased it. Another student argued there were already a sufficient number of monuments on campus to "rich white men." Another student senator said the university shouldn't pay tribute to "the killing of others."

It's hard to know whether to laugh or cry at this insanity. Boyington first made his mark as a fighter pilot with the legendary Flying Tigers in China before Pearl Harbor. Then he was enlisted to whip a group of misfits, drunkards, and discipline problems into what became one of the greatest fighter units in history. The squadron, known as the Black Sheep, decimated the Japanese Air Force over Guadalcanal; Boyington shot down 28 enemy planes. He was captured and spent 20 months in a Japanese prison camp. Boyington's exploits won him a chestful of decorations, including the Congressional Medal of Honor, which was personally awarded by President Roosevelt. Boyington died in 1988, but he lived long enough to see himself portrayed by Robert Conrad in the TV series.

If any American war hero deserves a monument, it's Pappy Boyington. Too bad some students at the University of Washington don't seem to realize that.

Photograph by Bettmann/Corbis

Forum

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Men in Uniform

I have fantasized about men in uniform for as long as I can remember. So when I learned that one of my upcoming business trips would take me on a tour of a Virginia naval base, I couldn't wait to go.

It was hot the day I arrived. I was free that morning and decided to hang out at the beach. I'm usually pretty shy, but since I didn't know anyone in the area, I decided to go topless. Before long, my large breasts were turning a nice bronze color. The heat was intoxicating. As I imagined getting fucked by a sailor, I rubbed oil over myself, paying particular attention to my sensitive nipples.

After an hour or so of sitting in the sun, I was feeling hornier and hornier. I turned over and made eye contact with an extremely attractive guy sitting on the boardwalk. He gave me a smile as if to acknowledge that he'd been watching the entire time. Then he waved, and stood up and left.

That only made things worse. I went back to the hotel, but a cold shower didn't help. I dressed and went to the office where I would meet my guide for the next hour. I knocked and couldn't believe it when the door opened. The officer who was going to be leading the tour was the gorgeous, fuckable guy from the boardwalk.

After raising his eyebrows in surprise, he gave me another winning smile. As I already mentioned, I love a man in uniform, and he looked perfect. I let my eyes take in his broad chest and navy tie, then his tight, white pants that were made even tighter by his growing cock.

I was still horny. Without hesitation, I dropped to my knees and unzipped him. I took his perfect cock in my mouth and deep-throated it. As he reached out to close the door, I massaged his balls. Then he groaned, grabbed the back of my head with both hands, and started fucking my mouth. I was driving him crazy, and he obviously loved it.

"As he reached out to close the door, I massaged his balls.... I was driving him crazy, and he obviously loved it."

Everything was going just fine until without warning, the door opened and another officer walked in. We were so fucking horny we couldn't stop. The second officer, a shorter but more muscular man, quickly closed the door behind him. He stood there watching as I ran my tongue up and down his colleague's shaft. A moment later, he unbuckled his belt, pulled out his eight-inch cock, and began pleasuring himself with long, slow strokes. Then he stood behind me and grabbed my hips. With one hand, he raised my skirt and pulled down my panties. I was so wet, his cock slipped right into my eager pussy. The reality of handling two cocks for the first time was thrilling. We three fucked hard. None of us lasted very long.

I convulsed with newfound pleasure, my cunt muscles gripping my drill officer's big, hard cock until he surged against me, filling me with his hot load. At the same time, the first officer shot his sweet, hot come into my mouth.

Satisfied for the moment, we all sat on the floor. I looked from one officer to the other and couldn't decide which one to take back to my room. Then I did a mental head slap. Why should I have to choose? The only tour that afternoon took place in my hotel room.—*H.S., United Kingdom*

My Favorite Customer

Last summer I worked as a troubleshooter for a lawn-and-garden equipment sales center. I was responsible for the assembly of equipment after it was delivered to the customer.

A couple of weeks ago, we delivered a riding lawnmower to a couple living in a rural area. After we left, we got a service call. The husband—a white-collar type—couldn't figure out how to assemble it. I went back out to help them.

The next day, I got another call from the wife, Christie, about the mower. I drove out there to check it out, only this time I was the one being checked out. Christie promptly informed me that her husband was away for a week on business. She took me into the garage, explained the problem she was having with the mower, and went inside.

I got the mower started just as Christie returned with a glass of iced tea. She's a gorgeous woman—tall, shapely, and blonde, with beautiful blue eyes. She had on a sundress that was so sheer, it left nothing to the imagination. She handed me my iced tea and told me to sit down on the mower. Then she walked over and put her hand on the growing bulge in my pants.

"What's this, a special tool for fixing things?" Christie asked.

I couldn't believe what was happening. She unzipped my pants and freed my rock-hard cock. She slowly stroked it up and down, then began licking it all over. I reached under her dress to feel her fine ass. Then I moved my hand between her legs as she spread them for me. Her pussy was clean-shaven and dripping wet. As I rubbed her clit, she started to suck harder and faster, deep-throating every inch of my cock. I put two fingers inside her and pumped them in and out to the rhythm of her magical sucking. She began pushing back, and I felt her muscles tighten up. Soon she came so hard that she squeezed my fingers out of her and took

my entire cock deep inside her mouth, right down to the base.

Christie dragged me up by my pants and led me into the house. She hastily undressed me and pushed me onto the floor. She pulled off her sundress, turned her back to me, and straddled my head, placing her still-dripping pussy over my mouth. My tongue explored deep inside her and my lips caressed her clit. Then she leaned forward and started sucking me again, playing with my asshole with her moistened finger. I went crazy, sucking, licking, and plunging my tongue as deep into her pussy as I could. She started grinding her pussy on my face and licking the head of my cock like a Popsicle. At the same time, she slid her finger in and out of my asshole.

I could feel the pressure building up until I was ready to burst. I couldn't take it anymore and exploded, filling her mouth with my hot cream. Christie tried to swallow as much as she could, but some still ran out of her mouth and back down my cock. She licked me clean, and got up on her hands and knees. She told me to kneel in front of her, and she started sucking me off again. I reached forward and started playing with her firm, full tits, rubbing them and rolling her nipples between my fingers.

My cock was starting to grow again. When it reached its full length, she pulled away and told me to fuck her doggie-style. I went behind her and slid my cock into her tight pussy. I started slow, using long, steady strokes until she begged for more, screaming "Fuck me! Fuck me hard!"

She didn't have to tell me twice. I gripped Christie's hips and started pounding away, slapping her ass with my balls. "Harder, faster, harder!" she screamed. I could feel her pussy muscles squeezing my cock with every thrust. "I'm coming! Oh God, I'm coming!" she groaned.

She came with such fury that I thought she was going to rip my cock off my body. Then a flood of her juices flowed over my cock and down my balls. Christie collapsed and moaned, "Now it's your turn." With her face still pressed against the floor she reached behind, pulled my cock out of her, and moved it higher. "Fuck my ass!" she demanded. I guided my cock straight into her puckered asshole. "Yes, that's it. Fill my ass!" she cried.

I started pumping away again, not knowing how much longer I could hold back. I played with Christie's clit, slid two fingers inside her pussy, and worked them as fast as I was fucking her ass. I could feel my cock in her ass through her pussy. Christie was getting ready to come again. I was almost at my peak, fucking as hard as I could, ramming my rod deep into her ass and finger-fucking her wet cunt.

All at once she came, and I filled her ass with every last drop of come I had. She fell flat to the floor and whispered, "Thank you."

I collapsed on Christie's back, still inside her. At some point I pulled out of her, cleaned myself up, and left.

A week later I received another call for an emergency service visit from my new favorite customer. It looked like this was going to be an excellent summer.
—*L.S., Florida*

"She walked over and put her hand on the growing bulge in my pants. 'What's this, a special tool for fixing things?' she asked."

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By Rebecca Swanner

WE HAVE A CRUSH ON ...

Alison Goldfrapp

This British **disco queen** is ready to bring her **sexy sounds** to the States. The *New York Post* called her third album with partner Will Gregory, *Supernature*, "everything we love about the eighties, but updated for the aughties."

Electroshock
"People think electronic music is not real music. Maybe that's more of an English thing, but people feel like serious music is played on guitars. We've always mixed the two. We use rock instruments, strings, harpsichords, and a lot of synthesizers."

Disco concerto
"We've been inspired by disco, but on the first album we used big string arrangements, big epic melancholy tunes, and big drama in the same way as classical music."

Horseplay
"I really love 'Ride a White Horse.' I think it's great, very early electro-disco, which I really love. But there are a lot of other inspirations I can't pin down."

Dance party U.K.
"I think having dancers onstage is another [positive] live aspect. It's very human, and what they wear highlights the music and the atmosphere. I wanted to show that they've become part of the scenery with their movements and their shapes."

No nunsense
"What I loved about [convent] school was, the [nuns] were very passionate about art, creativity, and education—but they were also very strict."

Even in a leotard, Madonna is cool
"That a more mature woman is still doing stuff, whether anybody likes her music or not, I find inspiring. She's confident. You can't knock that. I wouldn't wear a leotard, that's for sure."

It's a family affair
"I grew up in a big family and my father was a painter. He loved music and my family played a lot of classical and rock music, so it's always been around. I've always wanted to be able to make music and art. If I don't do it, I feel like I'm going to go mad."

Photograph by Ross Katon

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